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Clinton greeted by Russian stalemate

Civil strife warning after veto by Duma

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

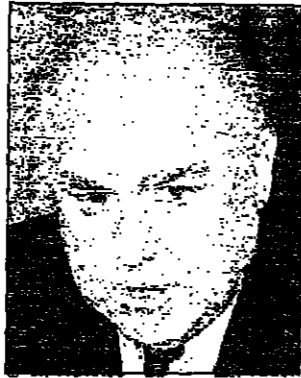
RUSSIA plunged deeper into crisis yesterday when its parliament overwhelmingly rejected President Yeltsin's nomination of Viktor Chernomyrdin as Prime Minister and set the stage for a long and bruising power struggle.

After a heated debate during which speakers from across the political spectrum attacked Mr Chernomyrdin's record in Government, the Duma - the lower house - voted 251-94 against nominating him to head a new Government.

The angry exchanges and calls for Mr Yeltsin's resignation will be an embarrassment for the Kremlin as it welcomes President Clinton for a three-day visit this morning. But more importantly, it could herald a fortnight of political stalemate, leaving the country rudderless at a time when crucial decisions need to be taken to save the near-bankrupt economy.

Aleksandr Kotenkov, Mr Yeltsin's representative in parliament, gave a warning that if the politicians could not put their differences aside quickly, Russia could lurch into even greater economic chaos and trigger civil strife. "If this chaos lasts for several more weeks, it may happen that there will be neither Communists nor us," he said. "I mean a popular uprising, merciless and senseless."

Emerging from the debating chamber looking impatient in spite of the criticism he had just endured, Mr Chernomyrdin made clear that he had no intention of



Chernomyrdin rejected by 251 votes to 94

backing down and would seek confirmation again next week. Indeed, within hours of the vote, Mr Yeltsin had resubmitted Mr Chernomyrdin's name. "This country cannot continue without a Government," the acting Prime Minister said. "No matter what, I must make decisions because life goes on. Steps must be taken to pay arrears to the military, students and coal miners. I will deal with this."

Under Russia's constitution a candidate for Prime Minister can go before the Duma three times to seek confirmation. If he is rejected on the final vote, parliament is dissolved and fresh elections held. To succeed, a candidate requires a simple majority of 226 votes.

The country endured a similar spectacle five months ago when Sergei Kiriyenko won confirmation on the last vote mainly because deputies wanted to avoid elections. The same reasoning may apply

again this time, except that Russia can ill afford to be without an effective Government while its economy falls apart.

In particular, Russia desperately needs the next tranche of IMF loans worth \$4.3 billion due to be paid in mid-September. But no money will be forthcoming until a functioning Government with a clear financial policy is in place, and as soon as word of the latest political stalemate filtered out, the rouble began to slide again.

Although there are behind-the-scenes contacts to revive a power-sharing compromise worked out at the weekend, Duma deputies showed no signs of conciliation during their speeches. Gennadi Zyuganov, whose Communist Party is the largest faction in parliament, said: "What has been going on in the country for seven years under the guise of economic reforms is now lying in ruin. The main cause is the policy, the absence of basic governance and a total lack of responsibility among the country's rulers."

Others speakers followed in a similar vein, including Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, the ultranationalist head of the Liberal Democratic Party, and even Grigori Yavlinsky, the leader of the liberal Yabloko bloc, who accused Yeltsin administration of creating a "semi-criminal" economic system.

Middle-class havoc, page 10
Leading article, page 17
Law, page 35
Wall St slump, page 44



Louise Woodward and Barry Scheck appearing together in Edinburgh, where they opposed televised justice

A POISED Louise Woodward swept into Edinburgh with her American lawyer Barry Scheck yesterday to issue a warning of the perils of television turning court cases into soap operas.

The plump, lank-haired teenager who had sobbed uncontrollably in front of millions of television viewers when she was convicted of murdering baby Matthew Eappen had been trans-

Woodward warning on soap opera justice

formed. Instead, a slim, well-groomed, articulate and serious-minded young woman confronted 900 programme makers at the Edinburgh Television Festival, not to protest her innocence, but to discuss the ethics of media court

coverage. She spoke confidently as she admitted: "I am not famous for anything good."

Miss Woodward and Mr Scheck had imposed strict conditions on her appearance. No television cameras were allowed into the debate and

reporters were obliged to produce letters of accreditation.

Miss Woodward also attended a number of media parties, arriving at one clutching the hand of Mr Scheck's young daughter. It is understood that she was not paid for her appearance. "Barry and I agreed to come and talk about this issue because we think it is important," she said.

Festival debate, page 3

Channel islet seized by king of Patagonia

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

A TINY British-owned island in the English Channel has been "invaded" by an eccentric French novelist in the name of King Orélie-Antoine I, the self-proclaimed monarch of Patagonia who died more than a century ago.

Jean Raspail, a writer who styles himself consul-general of the non-existent Argentine kingdom, said a unit of "Patagonian marines" under a retired English rear-admiral had claimed sovereignty over the deserted Minquiers archipelago south of Jersey in retaliation for Britain's "occupation" of the Falklands.

"A light naval unit of the Patagonian fleet landed ... and hoisted the royal blue, white and green flag in place of the British flag, which can be honourably returned to Her British Majesty's Embassy in Paris," the statement declared.

The only building on the largest island in the archipelago is a wooden shack containing a lavatory. Nailed to it was a plaque declaring the island to be the southernmost part of the British Isles. This has now been replaced by one describing it as a new royal Patagonian "colony" and the northernmost region of Patagonia.

The amphibious landing was carried out at dawn on Sunday and met no resistance since the only inhabitants at the time were a handful of surprised seagulls. In fact, the invasion passed unnoticed until the declaration of sovereignty was issued in the name of Orélie-Antoine yesterday.

The British Embassy in Paris was unable to comment on the invasion. Indeed, the bank holiday switchboard operator was rendered speechless by the news.

M Raspail said the fictional

Continued on page 2, col 5

9-wicket star of the Oval

England's cricketers were overwhelmed by Muttiah Muralitharan, who completed match figures of 16 for 220, the fifth best in Test cricket, as the home side's resistance was ended with a ban-hour in hand at the Oval. The off-spinner took nine for 65 in the second innings, and only a run-out deprived him of the chance to join Jim Laker as the one man with all ten.... Pages 23, 29

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Diana 'true believers' make heretic head for sanctuary

Valerie Grove sees historian risk

lynch law from devoted crowd who regard him as enemy at the gates

EXACTLY 365 days had passed since they heard the news, but the worshippers had not weakened one iota in their passion for their idol. Among the gentle, seemingly crowds, strollers placing their flowers and eating their lunchtime picnics outside Kensington Palace yesterday, there was a hard core of aggressively pro-Diana acolytes ready to pounce on any dissenting voice.

An ugly scene threatened to erupt and shatter the sunny, peaceful scene when the crowd overheard the reckless LSE historian Dr David Starkey voicing his notorious anti-Diana opinions for the CBS TV news cameras. Across Kensington Gardens came the unmistakable sounds of an incipient lynch mob.

"Out, out, out" they chanted, giving the dapper Starkey a slow handclap. His voice was

quickly drowned out by their yelling. "You pathetic prat!" they bawled. "You've picked the wrong day, mate." "How would you like it if you'd died and someone said those things about you?"

As the noise grew, the park police stepped in. "Calm down, let's have a bit of dignity please," Dr Starkey was then marched with police escort towards the sanctuary of the Royal Garden Hotel. "It was obviously a troupe of Diana True Believers," said Dr Starkey. "I said deeply shocking things," he explained, all sarcasm. "I said

that in the last 12 months, Charles had shown himself to be a very good father. And I cited the photograph in *The Sun* which showed Harry reaching up to Charles - and that's when the booing started. "Because these are people who believe passionately in Diana the Unique, Diana the Holy. These people hate the Monarchy. They saw Diana correctly as the Republicans' secret weapon, a woman who would do anything to destroy the House of Windsor. I said Diana had had a series of affairs, which is true. I said the mildest gentlest things and

that was the reaction. Imagine if Christopher Hitchens [whose Channel 4 documentary *Diana, The Mourning After*, showed dissenters throughout the land who were appalled by the hysteria] had come. He would be torn apart by wild horses."

Word quickly crossed the park to the NBC people, who were expecting Hitchens later; they promptly decided to keep him in a studio instead. Until that moment, the day had been an orderly, slimmer-down version of last year's scene in the Mall: flowers, mawkish verses, poems and songs ("Diana, the eternal flame, / A light in the dark, / A symbol of love, / A flower in the park"), teddies, collages, candles and even garden gnomes.

And just as last year's crowds were swelled by media coverage - people came because they had seen on television that others were coming, they were making a collective, imitative response - this year's crowds were inspired by reading in the media that last year was just a one-off, that there was "Diana-fatigue". The assumption insulted their loyalty; and so they came in sheer defiance.

Angelica Bruzler, a former investment banker, came with a single rose: "I came because I was slightly furious with the media for saying people didn't care much any more. What happened last year was a true expression of what people felt. It was not hyped up. Commentators keep discrediting

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Princes remember, page 4
Al Fayed's curse, page 5
Libby Purves, page 16



David Starkey receives a police escort away from Kensington Palace



"I've won the lottery - bring in the petty cash box"

Lawyers head for a million

Lawyers with top commercial law firms enjoyed a record-breaking year with the highest paid partners earning nearly £900,000. The figures are in stark contrast to the earnings of most solicitors, who work in small firms and are lucky to earn £60,000 a year.... Page 2

Music teacher on rape charge

A public school music teacher appeared in court in Taunton charged with raping a girl aged 15, David Fitzgerald, 26, an Australian teaching in England, is alleged to have raped the girl at his Somerset home in the early hours of Saturday. He was remanded in custody until Thursday.

Shell merger

Shell is close to agreeing a merger of its European refining and marketing operations with Texaco after a dramatic fall in refinery-profits across the Continent. Both companies have been hit by a glut of gasoline and heating oil in world markets.... Page 44

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Think tank to put case for shake-up of taxation system

Fabian Society commission of inquiry will try to force hand of Blair and Brown on 'taboo' subject, writes Philip Webster

A THINK tank linked to Labour is to mount a full-scale investigation into all aspects of taxation and government policy towards it.

The commission of inquiry, announced today by the Fabian Society, which is affiliated to the Labour Party but independent of it, will be a direct challenge to the reluctance of Tony Blair and Gordon Brown to talk about taxation and justify increasing it.

Its report is timed to emerge at the end of next year with the aim of influencing Labour's next general election manifesto. It seems certain to criticise Labour's defensiveness over taxation. The Fabian Society says that taxation has become the

"taboo" subject of British politics because of Labour's belief that its tax-and-spend image lost it the 1992 election, and that its promise not to increase income tax helped it to win last year.

The Labour Left will welcome the opportunity provided by the inquiry to reopen the debate about tax levels, particularly on the wealthy. One senior leftwinger said yesterday: "If the commission concludes that a properly progressive system is the way forward it will be a valuable pointer to the Government. The case for raising more

taxes from the rich is now unanswerable." Labour has promised not to raise the top rate of tax during this Parliament.

Lord Plant of Highfield, a leading political philosopher, is to chair the 15-member Commission on Taxation and Citizenship, whose overall aim will be to redefine the case for taxation in terms of the relationship between the individual and the state. The society says that the present tax structure is "essentially unsustainable" and promises radical proposals to rectify it.

The commission will examine all

aspects of taxation policy. These include the "hypothecation" or earmarking of taxes for specific purposes; the role of taxation in the redistribution of wealth and income; the future of the national insurance system and welfare funding; the extension of local taxation beyond the Scottish parliament to Wales, Northern Ireland and the English regions; and the impact of the European single currency on tax policy.

Its most sensitive discussions will centre on reform of the taxation system, including scrutiny of the

tax base, the use of tax reliefs, the balance between individual and corporate taxation, the political process by which taxes are set, and the mechanisms for tax collection.

The society proposes a substantial overhaul of the system itself. The present one has grown up through a series of incremental changes implemented for different reasons over a long time with many anomalies. It points to a fundamental weakness in the system, that spending commitments have only been met over the last 20 years by occasional one-off injections of

funds, such as North Sea oil revenue, privatisation receipts and the windfall tax on the privatised utilities.

Michael Jacobs, general secretary of the Fabians, said yesterday: "The legacy of the Thatcher years has made taxation almost a taboo subject in British politics. It is time for a new debate about the purpose of taxation and its central role in funding public services."

Lord Plant, who chaired Labour's commission on electoral systems while in Opposition, is Master of St Catherine's College,

Oxford. Other members include Jonathan Charlton, a former adviser to the Bank of England.

Governor, Fran Bennett, former director of the Child Poverty Action Group, Ruth Evans, director of the National Consumer Council, Paul Johnson, deputy director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies, Sir Nicholas Monck, former permanent secretary at the Department of Employment, Brian Pomeroy, senior partner of Deloitte and Touche consulting group, and Wendy Thomson, chief executive of the London borough of Newham.

Prisons attack inspector's claim on drug barons

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE bitter feud between the Prison Service and the Chief Inspector of Prisons erupted into the open last night when it dismissed his claim that drug barons operated in big prisons as "empty words".

Sir David Ramsbotham was told to "put up or shut up" and challenged to produce evidence to support his allegation that some of the big jails in England and Wales harboured at least twenty dealers.

In a brief statement indicating that the service had finally lost patience with the chief inspector, it said he had been unable to produce evidence to support his previous allegations about the extent of drug dealing and expected none from him on this occasion.

The statement said: "Without evidence to back-up claims

of this kind, they are just empty words. We take prompt action against prisoners using drugs when we have the evidence. Nothing was provided last time and we are not anticipating any this time."

But last night the 27,000-strong Prison Officers Association rallied to support Sir David's claim. Mark Freeman of the association said that in jails such as Leeds or Liverpool, with up to 1,100 inmates, it was quite possible for that number of people to be dealing in drugs. "They will be taking the stuff, they will be dealing in it. Some purely for profit and some bartering for other goods," he said.

The chief inspector is increasingly frustrated at funding cuts that have hit education and training programmes and believes the

service should be overhauled to provide better-focused direction. He also believes the prison service should take a much tougher approach towards stopping drugs getting into jails and "isolating" drug barons from other prisoners.

Sir David's latest claim infuriated officials, who have dismissed him as a "loose cannon" intent on extending the remit of his role from being inspector of prisons to inspector of the prison service.

The chief inspector's claim that at least 20 drug barons operated in each of the biggest jails was made to MPs investigating prison issues and what alternative punishments could replace prison sentences.

It was included in a letter sent to the Commons Home Affairs select committee after he told them in March that there were ten drug barons in each of the 135 jails in the country. Sir David told both Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, and Richard Tilt, the Director General of the Prison Service, that he was mistaken and that the true number of drug barons is much higher than his original "top of the head" estimate.

He writes in his letter: "I also explained to the Home Secretary and to the Director General that my own inspector told me that I was wrong, in that there were at least twenty in some of the bigger prisons."

Sir David says that in highlighting the number of remand or convicted criminals operating as dealers, he was attempting to show how much misery they caused among other inmates.

In the letter sent in May, Sir David admits that he cannot possibly evaluate exactly how many drug dealers there are and that it is "invidious to quibble over whether ten is or is not the correct assessment."

Sir David's letter, which has been seen by *The Times*, does not reveal which of the bigger prisons has at least twenty criminals dealing in drugs. The letter was in reply to a note from Mr Tilt, answering a number of the assertions made by Sir David.



Diners yesterday at Il Forno, the restaurant in La Muela where Mr Noye was seized by police. He is facing extradition proceedings

Attacked inmate wins right to sue

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A PRISONER whose face was badly scarred after a razor attack by inmates has won a test ruling that he is entitled to compensation on the ground that the Home Office failed to ensure the prison was run safely.

Robert Hartshorn, a convicted murderer, goes to court today to have his damages assessed after a winning his personal injuries claim in July. He is seeking £20,000. The Home Office has lodged an appeal against the ruling.

At present, only prisoners who are known by the authorities to be at risk of attack, such as child abusers, can seek to mount a claim. The ruling on this case, however, opens up the possibility of a claim by any prisoner who is attacked if he can show that the authorities were negligent in ensuring prisoners' safety.

Hartshorn, 34, of Merthyr Tydfil, who was jailed in 1986, was attacked by two men in



Hartshorn seeking £20,000 in damages

Garret Prison, Leicestershire in September 1995. He brought a claim in Torquay County Court which ruled that the Home Office had been negligent in failing to ensure the prison was operated in a safe and secure manner.

His solicitor, Kerry Austin of Woolcombe Beer Watts, said that the ruling had changed the law and made it easier for prisoners who are attacked to bring a claim.

Work stops on Noye's place in the sun

FROM STEPHEN FARRELL IN LA MUELA

BUILDERS yesterday stopped work on the £350,000 Spanish villa of Kenneth Noye, complaining that he owed them three million pesetas (£12,500).

Pepin Gomez, a local contractor, ordered his four workers to dismantle their scaffolding and move out of the whitewashed hilltop house in Atlanterra as soon as he heard about his arrest. Kent Police have confirmed Mr Noye is wanted for questioning in connection with the murder of Stephen Cameron, 21, during an argument with the driver of a Land Rover Discovery near Swanley in May 1996.

Danielle Cable, then 17, was a passenger in the car when Mr Cameron received fatal knife wounds.

Señor Gomez, 47, yesterday refused to say how he had first met the Englishman he knew as "Mikey". He said: "He was going to

pay me today. We had one payment in cash a month ago but he said he wanted the bill at the end of the job because he could put it through his company and claim it back in his country."

"He was trying to buy the piece of land next to the house which was owned by a German." He said Mr Noye only lived at the villa at weekends, spending the week at another home in the nearby coastal village of Los Canos de Meca, but arrived each morning to check on progress.

Although Mr Noye, who spoke little or no Spanish and always paid in cash, carried a mobile telephone he never gave them his number or surname and there was no telephone at the house, said Señor Gomez.

Locals in La Muela, half an hour's drive from the resort of Atlanterra said that Mr Noye, 51, had been seen around the area for two years. He was



A Spanish policeman examines Mr Noye's car in Cadiz

arrested last Friday while dining with a woman at a nearby fish restaurant in La Muela and is now in solitary confinement at the maximum security prison in Puerto de Santa Maria awaiting extradition proceedings. In recent months Mr Noye appears to have been building up a property development business

on Spain's Atlantic Costa de la Luz, a region popular with Spanish holidaymakers but relatively unknown to the British hordes which throng to the Costa del Sol, 150 miles away.

He was renovating his Atlanterra and seeking to buy the land next door. He is also believed to have interests in

other buildings in La Muela and the nearby towns of Tarifa and Barbate.

The extradition case could last 10 months. After Mr Noye's appearance in a Cadiz court on Saturday, the British authorities now have 28 days to submit their formal extradition request and evidence to the Ministry of Justice in Madrid.

"The evidence will then be sent to the central criminal court where prosecutors will want to know whether Noye has broken any Spanish laws such as using a false passport and if Kent Police have a prima facie case," he said.

The Crown Prosecution Service has told Kent Police they believe there is enough evidence for his extradition.

However, if Mr Noye is found to have committed offences locally he is likely to be tried and serve any sentence in Spain before extradition.

If not it will be six months before the case is heard before up to three judges.

Top lawyers earn close to £900,000

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

LAWYERS in the top commercial law firms have had a record-breaking year, with the highest paid partners now earning nearly £900,000 a year, according to a survey published today.

Partners at the City of London firm Slaughter and May are the wealthiest, according to the annual survey by the monthly magazine *Legal Business*. Their top rate is £875,000 a year.

But close behind is Allen & Overy at £800,000. New partners in the firm, generally solicitors in their early 30s, would receive £437,000. Twenty commercial firms saw profits shoot up by more than 30 per cent, the survey also shows.

The 260 partners of Britain's biggest commercial firm, Clifford Chance, celebrated a 38 per cent leap in average profits to £478,000. Herbert Smith, whose clients include BAT, Stagecoach and Eurotun-

nel, saw average profits leap by 35 per cent to £473,000, and partners at Norton Rose, which played a leading role in last year's Guinness/Grand Met Merger, saw profits soar by 31 per cent to £331,000.

The figures are in stark contrast to the earnings of most solicitors. Those in the smaller firms of fewer than five partners would be lucky to earn £60,000 a year and are currently facing huge demands for their professional insurance premiums.

The earnings do not represent take-home pay, however: many firms have big overheads and rent or property refurbishment costs. Many partners have to plough back a quarter of their earnings into their firm.

The survey also found that the top 100 firms in England and Wales billed their clients a total of £4.34 billion in legal fees last year, a 16.4 per cent rise on the

previous year and the biggest year-on-year increase since 1993, the first year of the survey. Then, in the middle of a recession, fees stood at £2.7 billion.

Marilyn Klein, editor of *Legal Business*, said: "Today's record-breaking figure shows law firm fees have swelled by over 60 per cent in just five years."

They resulted from the continued boom in mergers and acquisition business, she said, coupled with capital markets activity. The firms performing best were the acknowledged leaders in those fields: Slaughter and May, Freshfields, and Linklaters. The top banking firms were Allen & Overy and Clifford Chance; profit margins leapt by 40 per cent at those firms.

Outside London the star performers were Leeds-based Hammond Suddards and Wragge & Co in Birmingham.

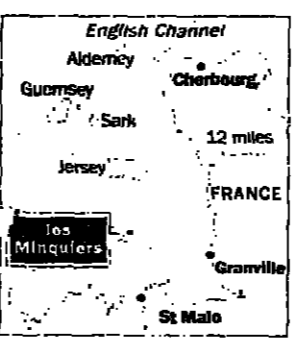
Invasion by the king of Patagonia

Continued from page 1

kingdom of Patagonia has more than 1,000 subjects to its name and boasts seven boats in its navy.

He refused to identify the admiral in command of the royal fleet, pointing out that as the kingdom's naval supreme, the retired British officer had felt it necessary to resign for 48 hours during the invasion in order to avoid a conflict of loyalties.

M Raspail claims to be the diplomatic representative of Antoine Tounens, a French adventurer who arrived in southern Argentina in 1860 and had himself proclaimed King of Patagonia by the resident Indians. Tounens's rule was short and hilarious,



The novelist subsequently decided to reestablish the long-dead Tounens as "King of Patagonia in perpetuity", and he first laid claim to the Miniquiers archipelago in June 1984.

This, he claimed, was "in response to Britain's unacceptable and prolonged occupation of the Malvinas Islands [the Argentine name for the Falklands], a territory of Patagonia".

"The rocks in the Channel are very similar to the landscape of Patagonia," M Raspail said yesterday from his home outside Paris.

The Miniquiers archipelago, most of which is submerged at high tide, was for many years the focus of a territorial dispute between Britain and France, but in 1953 the International Court of Justice in The Hague rejected the French claim and confirmed British sovereignty. The self-proclaimed consul-general of Patagonia insists he has now taken over the French claim to the rocks "so scandalously abandoned by the governments of the Fourth Republic".

M Raspail said he expected a British effort to retake the islands would be launched "within hours", but last night the blue, white and green of the royal house of Patagonia still fluttered over the disputed rocks, as Britain faced the first invasion of its Channel Island possessions since the Second World War.

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'People are not able to distinguish between notoriety and celebrity'



Louise Woodward said yesterday that, during her own televised trial for murder, in America, she had been criticised for giggling, wearing a headband, scratching her nose, and having her hair back

LOUISE WOODWARD, the British au pair convicted of manslaughter after a murder trial broadcast live on US television, said yesterday that cameras had turned her case into a "soap opera" and should not be permitted in the courtroom.

Carol Midgley hears the former au pair debate at the Edinburgh Television Festival

position if you had lawyers and the prosecution playing to public opinion rather than the judge and jury. You may as well not have a jury. "I can see the arguments for it... but I don't think cameras have any place in the courtroom."

more pressure on me. It was hard enough being handcuffed in the dock without having a camera trying to get a shot of my hands. It was very distressing.

in the courtroom had focused attention on her appearance — she was described as clumsy and criticised for giggling during evidence.

day from the media asking things like what university will I go to and where will I study. I returned from holiday with my sister to see paparazzi-style photos of me which had been taken by members of the public [and sold to newspapers].

Media circus rules cameras out of court

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE chances of television cameras being admitted to courts in England and Wales are virtually nil, given the strong opposition of the country's two most powerful legal figures.

media circus surrounding the trials of O.J. Simpson and Louise Woodward horrified many members of the judiciary.

witnesses in a case had to agree to filming and it was allowed only on condition that nothing was shown until after the trial and any possible appeals had ended.

Sex-change embezzler sent to women's jail

By SHIRLEY ENGLISH

A FORMER rugby player, who claims to be a woman after a sex-change operation yesterday became the first transsexual to be sent to a female prison unit when she was sentenced to 15 months for embezzlement.

MacRae, formerly known as Stephen Rae, is understood to have been sent to the special female unit at Craiginches Prison, Aberdeen, which houses up to 180 male prisoners, with a separate 10-place women's jail attached.

Over-the-limit MP warns of day-after effect

By A CORRESPONDENT

A LABOUR MP spoke yesterday of his "horror" at failing a breath test and urged other drivers to learn from his experience.

been over the limit in 25 years driving and I did not have a clue that I was. I hope others will learn the lesson, namely that you can't assume because of the passage of a number of hours and a period of sleep that you are not still over the limit.



MacRae: doctors will make final ruling



Carrn: will appear in court next week

Weather balloon meets an icy end

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE rogue weather balloon that has wandered half way around the world was believed yesterday finally to have arrived at journey's end.

without apparent effect. As it crossed the Atlantic, air traffic had to be rerouted. By Sunday it appeared to be sinking peacefully to rest in the Arctic, but found a new lease of life and headed on east.

balloon division at France's national space studies centre, CNES, said: "It's surprising that the balloon flew for so long. We're happy when we manage to keep our craft up in the air for 20 hours or more."

Family holiday ends in bus crash tragedy

By A CORRESPONDENT

THREE members of a British family on holiday in Florida have died after their rented minibus hit a pick-up truck as they drove to the airport for their flight home.

Susan Bennett, 41, from Peterbrook, Shirley, West Midlands, was killed along with her son Ryan, 12. They were thrown from the vehicle, which flipped at least six times after being hit by a pick-up truck and were pronounced dead at Osceola Regional Medical Centre in Kissimmee.

Mrs Bennett's husband Gary, 41 and their daughters Sarah, 14, and Leah, nine, suffered minor injuries.

Sister-in-law Kay Bennett, 35, of Solihull, sustained severe head, spine and internal injuries and was airlifted to Orlando Regional Medical Center. Her life support machine was turned off yesterday morning.

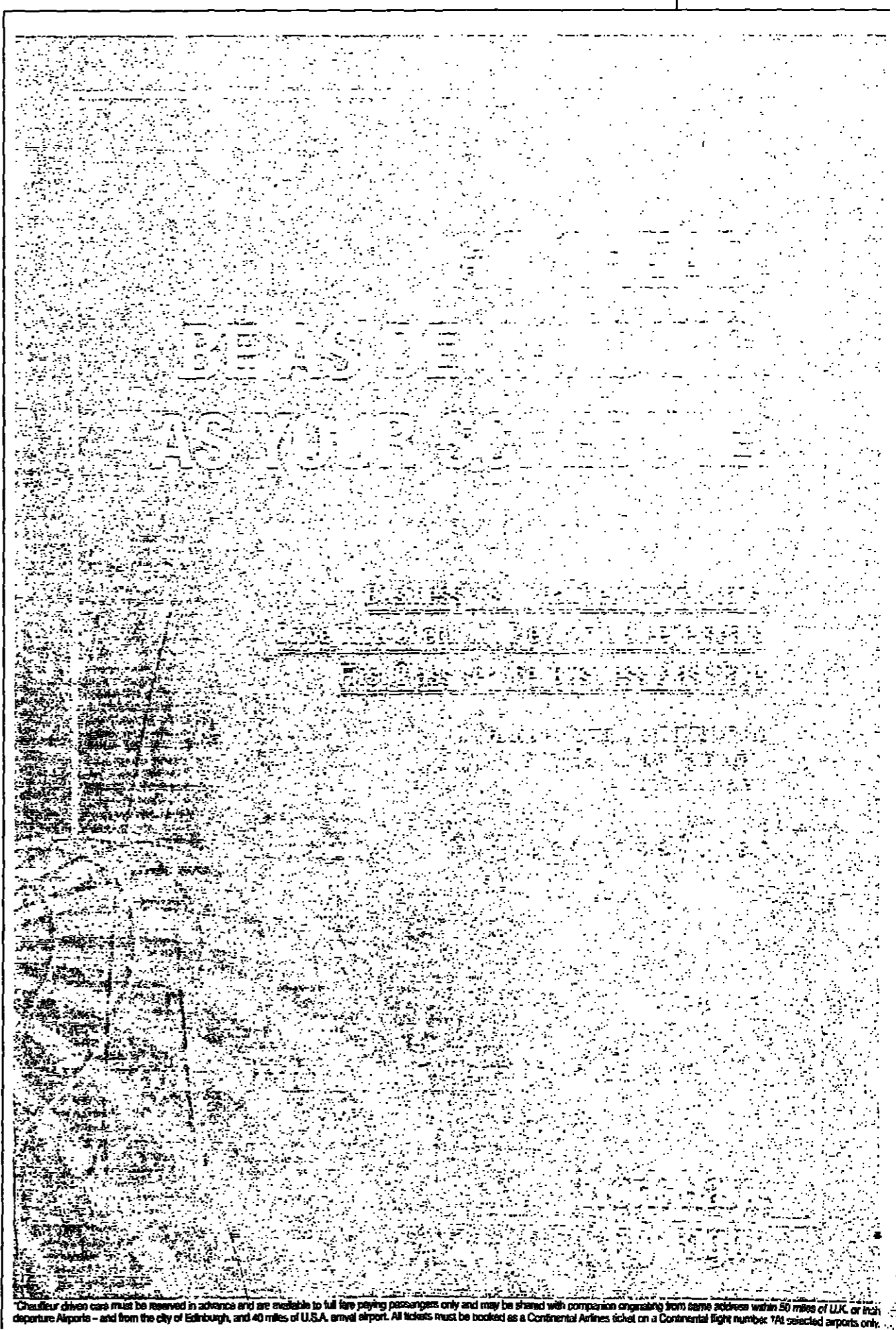
Her husband Glenn, 36, and daughters Ellie, seven, and Lydia, four, were slightly injured. A spokesman for the hospital said: "Obviously he is extremely distressed. The whole family is in great shock. If it wasn't bad enough seeing two other people die, being injured yourself and being in a foreign country, to then have to see your own wife die is terribly hard."

Glenn Bennett was driving the families in their rented 18-seater Dodge minibus when a local man, Richard Wayne Demlignon, turned left in front of them.

Lieutenant Chuck Williams of Florida Highway Patrol said Mr Demlignon is to be charged with motoring offences in the next few days.

The aunt of brothers Gary and Glenn Bennett said the whole family was devastated by the tragedy, and appealed for privacy for them to grieve for the dead. Vera Smith, 53, spoke of the "loving brothers who did everything together".

Mrs Smith said the brothers had planned the "dream holiday" for their families for some time. "They were very close and they did everything together," she said.



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Young Princes shielded from the public glare

A HANDFUL of respectful onlookers waited outside the stone gates of Balmoral Castle. As the sombre procession of vehicles emerged for the drive to Crathie church and the memorial service for Diana, Princess of Wales, they fell silent.

On a day for private grief and quiet reflection, few of the 40 or so people who gathered outside the Queen's estate on Royal Deeside to pay their respects on the first anniversary of the Princess's death expected any acknowledgment from the royal party as they drove past in a convoy of cars. It was enough to catch a glimpse of Prince William and Prince Harry, sandwiched between Prince Edward and the Princess Royal in the back of a one of the vehicles. The Princes, who had requested the private service to remember their mother, looked solemn and dignified as they entered the church to take their usual seats in the royal transept alongside their father.

The 20-minute service, also attended by Tony Blair and his wife, Cherie, was conducted by the Rev Robert Sloan, the Queen's domestic chaplain in Scotland. It was a simple commemorative event that included four readings from the Bible and prayers for the Princess and her family.

Mr Sloan read Psalm 23, the Lord Is My Shepherd, and from Isaiah, chapter 40, which begins, "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, sayeth your God." He was followed by the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Right Rev Professor Alan Main, who read from Romans, chapter 8. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus who walk not in the flesh but after the Spirit", and St John's Gospel, chapter 14, which begins, "Let not your heart be troubled."

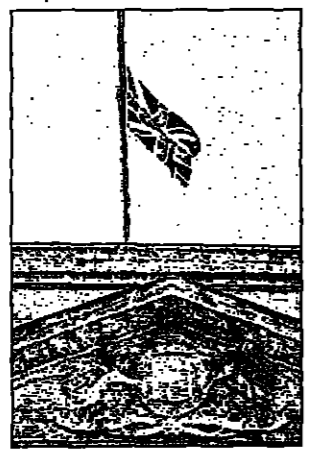
Later Mr Sloan said yesterday's service was designed to help the Princes William and Harry to cope on what must have been a painful day. "Our main concern was for the boys, that they be allowed to

William and Harry allowed to remember their mother in private, writes Gillian Harris

remember their mother in the way that they want," he said. After the service the Royal Family made the short drive back across the Dee to the sanctity of Balmoral. It had been suggested that the Queen, the Prince of Wales and the young Princes might stop at the gates to speak to those who had waited patiently in the sunshine but the cars swept past.

To local people, who are fiercely protective of the Royal Family when they are visiting Balmoral, it was the right decision. Even a year ago, when thousands of mourners flocked to Kensington Palace and Althorp to lay flowers, the people of Deeside stayed away from Balmoral, preferring to let the bereaved family mourn in private.

"Today is not about the Queen's subjects," Marjorie Black, from Aberdeen, said. "It is about the Princes, and



Union flag at half mast over Buckingham Palace

how they are feeling. There is no reason why they should want to stop and talk to people on today of all days."

Kathleen and Stanley Gould, on holiday from Preston, Lancashire, agreed. "We came here to show our respect and because we feel sorry for the boys. But we also feel the Royal Family should be left alone today and be given some privacy," Mrs Gould said.

Only the Judd family from Bracknell, Berkshire, were disappointed not to meet Princes William and Harry. Deborah and Barry Judd had travelled to Balmoral with their sons Daniel, 9, and Adrian, 6, at the end of a fortnight's holiday. They had wanted to present the Princes with a box of chocolates and a condolence card. "It would have been nice to hand them to the boys," Mrs Judd said. "We just wanted to let them know that we are thinking of them."

An hour after the service ended, Crathie church was reopened to the public. Some of those gathered outside Balmoral drifted up the hill to the granite church to offer prayers for the Princess.

A special prayer sheet had been placed in the pews. It read: "Today I have come to this quiet place to offer my prayer of remembrance and thanksgiving for Diana, Princess of Wales. She was a person whose life touched the hearts of so many people. She knew sorrow as well as happiness in her own life, and through this she grew in compassion for the suffering of others."

"I pray for those who were closest to her. I pray especially for her two young sons, Prince William and Prince Harry. Surround them with your loving care. May the love and assurance of their family protect them."

Outside, in the late summer sunshine, visitors wandered around the small churchyard lost in thought. "I can see why the Royal Family chose to remember her here," Ronald Murty, from Glasgow, said. "It is so peaceful. So quiet. It gives you time to think."



Tony and Cherie Blair leaving Balmoral yesterday morning for the memorial service for Diana, Princess of Wales, at Crathie parish church

Expected crowds stay away from Althorp

By DANIEL MCGRODY

EARL SPENCER and his family remembered Diana, Princess of Wales, behind the locked gates of Althorp yesterday as far fewer people than expected arrived to pay their tributes at her ancestral home.

There was little evidence of the public grief displayed a year ago. Most visitors said they wanted to respect the earl's wishes for privacy and tranquillity. His neighbours, wary as ever of being besieged by Diana worshippers, said that yesterday showed a shift in mood in the way the

public were remembering the Princess's death.

The visitors were subdued but the sentiments expressed by those leaving their flowers and poems was respect and fondness rather than the unrestrained grief of a year ago.

No one kept vigil as visitors came and went in swift and silent order. Margaret Morris, 46, from Hinckley, Leicestershire, said: "We won't ever forget Diana but maybe this is the end of the process of public grieving."

Lord Spencer, together with his sisters, Lady Sarah McCorquodale and Lady Jane Fellowes, and other family members gathered for a simple service at the lakeside looking over to the island where the Princess is buried. They were joined by estate workers and those locally who remember the Princess's childhood. Together they sang hymns and said prayers before leaving flowers at the side of the oval lake.

Lord Spencer had hoped that Prince William and Prince Harry would have attended yesterday's memorial service but they told him they wished to remain with their father, the Prince of Wales, at Balmoral.

Outside Althorp the police and security guards who had sealed off the estate from first light were hardly needed as a trickle rather than the expect-

ed flood of well-wishers drew up at the black and gold iron gates. By dusk only a few hundred bouquets and personal tributes lined the sandstone walls.

Deanna Scharenguivel, 58, and her daughter Joanna, 30, said: "We still wanted to come and pay our respects because she was such a marvellous woman and we will keep her memory alive. But perhaps it's time we put our grief away."

There was relief among the estate's neighbours in Great Brington that predictions that their village would be submerged by day-trippers never materialised, just as the expectation that Althorp would become a giant park when it was opened this summer was unfulfilled.

Many of those there yesterday had visited the exhibition about the Princess in the last hours before it closed on Sunday. Some, like Diane Parker, 46, said: "It's a shame we couldn't have paid our respects at the lakeside. Those who would have made such a journey would obviously have behaved with dignity."

Many of those who came yesterday were tourists simply curious to see the Princess's home. They were disappointed at seeing little more than the Spencer flag flying at half-mast above the 350-year-old house.



Lisa Marie Camp, 8, laying flowers outside Althorp

Diana devotees turn on heretic

Continued from Page 1
people's feelings." Geoffrey Musgrave, a policeman, and his wife Colleen, a retired college lecturer, from Kingsbury, northwest London, brought roses to declare their support for a Diana garden in the park. "We have a rose garden in Regent's Park for Queen Mary, why not for Diana?" said Mrs Musgrave. Angela and Richard Harding, chartered surveyors from Bristol, were visiting London with their niece Freya, 18, from Australia, and their sons George and Tom, but brought no flowers. Mrs Harding said: "I find flowers and messages sickly, like in memorial papers. But I came because it still makes me profoundly sad that she died so young. And because if anyone should be criticised, it is her husband who caused her unhappiness. People still feel that very strongly."

Indeed they do. Gill Marselles, from Raynes Park, southwest London, sat on a bench, having distributed leaflets. She said: "Charles and Camilla, I will never forgive you. I hope Diana is always the third person in your relationship." A retired nanny, she and her friend Ruth, a retired nurse, had been to Althorp yesterday and to Paris on the Princess's birthday ("I felt closer to Diana than ever before, in Paris"). A year ago

they had been first on the scene with flowers at Kensington Gardens at 6.15 am.

They greeted a young man carrying roses. Ian Jackman, a hotel manager from Hampstead, had just returned from Paris. How did they know each other? "From following Diana, of course," Jackman had followed her for ten years.

Anyone carrying a television camera (they outnumbered the crowd at first) was harangued by Diana fans with scorn for the Royal family and support for Diana. "Used, abused and discarded by the Royals and their cronies," as one message put it. "So much loved by the people who really matter."

Typical of the Princess's people, Jo Bird and Jack Maunsey, student midwife and ex-soldier, had arrived at midnight and camped under a tree with two candles. They waxed lyrical about the midnight scene: "The gold and black gates lit by all the candles were like an altar. It was quiet, and loving, and respectful."

At the other side of the park, a younger, livelier, more mixed, more raucous and much bigger crowd was thronging towards the Notting Hill Carnival. The two events will undoubtedly be a Bank Holiday fixture again in 1999. Even Dr Starkey will have to accept that.

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THE TIMES TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1 1998

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Mother shops son aged four

My curse will haunt killers, says Al Fayed

Alan Hamilton sees Harrods boss swear new vengeance over crash

THE first anniversary of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, was marked yesterday by private prayers, subdued remembrance, and a promise by Mohamed Al Fayed that his Egyptian curse would ultimately find those responsible for the deaths of the Princess and his son Dodi.

Mr Al Fayed, who has hung resolutely to a conspiracy theory over the crash in the Paris, and has pointedly refrained from sending any message of condolence to the Royal Family, used a brief visit to his Harrods store yesterday to fire another dart in the side of his perceived enemy, the British Establishment.

Greeting a small crowd who had gone to sign books of condolence and to view a shrine to the dead couple, Mr Al Fayed said: "The Establishment won't accept Dodi — as an Egyptian and as my son — as the man who could have married Princess Diana."

Gesturing to the knot of onlookers, Mr Al Fayed said: "These are ordinary people — they know exactly what happened. They will not accept the Establishment, or people being blackballed. I am just looking to God, but I will not rest."

Struggling with his emotions, he added: "If it wasn't an accident, and it's a murder, be sure that if the people who did this murder believe they will get away with it, then Hell will come to them. If they are more powerful than God, then people will come to them, and my Egyptian curse will not let them get away with it. Either I am wrong or they are."

Mr Al Fayed expressed sym-

pathy for Prince William and Prince Harry: "I feel sorry for the Princes, who are very close and are two very loving boys. For two children the mother is such an important thing. I am suffering because I lost my son but those two boys are strong boys with a lot of character. They have inherited a lot from Diana."

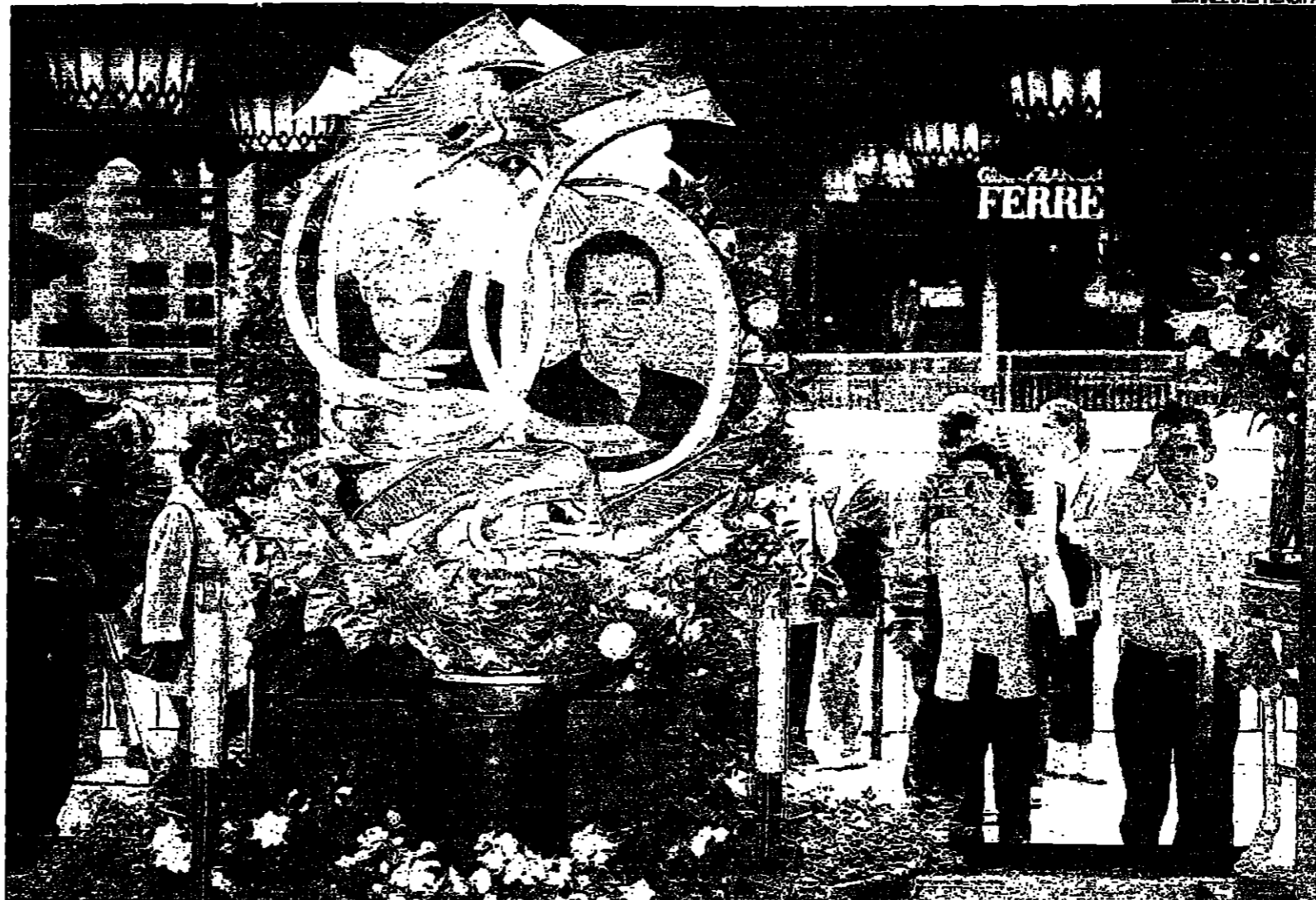
Mr Al Fayed had been expected to spend the day at his family home at Oxted, Surrey, in private prayer and contemplation. But he went to his Knightsbridge store in the early afternoon, saying that he had come to thank those members of the public who had queued to sign his books of condolence placed outside the store.

Dressed in a sombre grey suit, Mr Al Fayed used the occasion as another opportunity to promote his view than an unspecified "Establishment" would never have allowed a marriage between a son of his and the Princess.

The Harrods chairman, whose applications for British citizenship have been consistently refused by the Home Office, is apparently alone in believing that his son and the Princess were even contemplating a permanent union.

"I always talk my mind. I fear nobody," he said. "I follow my heart. It has been a horrendous day but there is a lot of feeling here. So much support from so many people. I really appreciated it. I am very grateful."

"I spent the day with the family in the morning. I just came to see all the people waiting here. It is nice just to share that. This is so important to me."



A replica of the basement shrine forms part of the window dressing at Harrods yesterday: two lecterns with books of condolence were near by

Kitsch in store for mourners at Harrods

By ALAN HAMILTON

THE department store whose telegraphic address is "Everything, London", and whose food halls are a paradigm of excellence, yesterday unveiled the counterpoint to its otherwise impeccable taste in merchandise.

In the lower ground floor of Harrods, by the Egyptian "stairway to heaven" escalator, Mohamed Al Fayed has created a permanent memorial to his son Dodi and Diana, Princess of Wales. The memorial reflects neither the Christian nor the Islamic traditions: it is pure kitsch.

Harrods said yesterday that the memorial would form the centrepiece of a permanent shrine "in response to continuing public requests for an appropriate place to leave flowers, tributes and messages of condolence". It is, essentially, a bronze fountain whose pools of water are intended to symbolise eternal life and whose display of freesias, lilies and roses was, according to a Harrods spokesman, "inspired by the couple's last

holiday together and the happiness they shared".

The 10ft-high memorial is crowned by colour portraits of the couple — that of the Princess from her 1991 *Vogue* photoshoot — framed in gilded swirls and interlinked by a double D. Water from the fountain flows from the beaks of four seagulls, intended to reinforce the symbolism of water as eternal life. There is no reference to Henri Paul, the driver who also died.

The shrine is the work of Bill Mitchell, the store's in-house designer who worked on the restoration of another of Mr Al Fayed's properties, the Ritz in Paris. It was made by Harrods' own craftsmen. Queues for the shrine, which is tucked away on the lower ground floor, were modest yesterday and opinions were divided. Some thought it too glitzy, others approved of a reminder that more than one person died in the crash.

An identical copy of the shrine has been placed in one of the store's front



A well-wisher hugs Al Fayed

windows and at 10am two green-coated doormen placed two lecterns with open books of condolence on either side of the window. A small queue, numbering about 50 within half an hour, built up to sign the books

and to leave bouquets and cards against the shop window. The display, like the crowd, was tiny compared with that at the Kensington Palace gates.

The first card to be placed by the Harrods' window arrived before the public and bore the handwritten message: "Dear Mr Fayed. We are thinking of you and your family on this day of remembrance for Dodi and Diana. Thank you for giving us a memorial to visit which is accessible to the people. With all best wishes for the future." The card was unsigned.

At night, the exterior of Harrods is normally lit by 11,000 bulbs. Last night it was in darkness, and its flag at half-mast, in common with royal residences and public buildings throughout the country. The only light was that illuminating the memorial window display.

The temporary shrine in the window will remain until the end of the week. Then Mr Al Fayed will take it home and use it for his own private contemplation.

Parisians hold vigil at shrine near site of crash

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

POEMS were read by candlelight last night at the unofficial shrine in Paris near where the Princess met her death.

The cultural group, *Odyssee Découverte*, was granted official permission to hold an anniversary gathering at the site, where bouquets and tributes had been left throughout the day. A choir sang and readings were made from the poems written and left at the "Flame of Liberty" sculpture in memory of the Princess.

The flag on the British Embassy flew at half-mast, and the apartment off the Champs-Élysées belonging to Dodi Fayed, where he and the Princess were headed on the night of the crash, was closed and shuttered.

Police reinforced security around the underpass beneath the *Place de l'Alma* to prevent anyone from attempting to enter the tunnel to visit the spot where the speeding limousine smashed into a concrete pillar. But in the early hours of yesterday one person managed to break through the metal barricades to lay a single bouquet by the pillar.

Stephanie Deboue-Thery, the head of *Odyssee Découverte*, said of last night's ceremony: "It's a very sad anniversary and we want to make sure it's remembered. We have not invited VIPs. It's an open invitation. It's for everyone." Among those who made the pilgrimage to the *Place de l'Alma* was Frédéric Mailliez, the off-duty doctor who attended the dying Princess just moments after the crash. "I wish I could have done more. I know I did my best but she could have lived 50 years longer... I'm not proud of what I did. I was just doing my job," he told reporters.

The doctor added that a permanent Paris memorial should be erected. "People are laying flowers here, which is wonderful... There is clearly a demand for something special to be placed here."

Foreign attention focuses on how Britons feel a year later

Helen Rumbelow detects a note of disappointment from abroad that people are not crying in the streets

FOR observers from other countries, the obsession with how Britain was coping with the anniversary, rather than the woman whose death it marked.

They made calls in their dozens yesterday from Detroit to Brussels, to radio and television stations, even Internet sites, anxious to know whether the astonishing outpouring of emotion last year would be repeated.

A call to *The Times* newsdesk from a Seattle radio station, nearly the tenth in an hour, was typical.

"How are they reacting? Are people crying in the streets?" asked Willie, the on-air host. Like Willie, many seemed disappointed that the British were returning to the reputation of reserve they have abroad.

But in sharp contrast to the reporting of the death and funeral coverage yesterday abroad was patchy. Very few newspapers beyond European ones mentioned the anniversary of the Princess's

death and those that did often expressed weariness at all the coverage that had gone before.

France and Australia were exceptions. Although *Libération* wrote of "a kingdom that has finally finished mourning for the tearful Princess and appears to want to turn the page," the word "frugal" was one of the most common to crop up in reports about the reaction of Britons. The popular

daily *France-Soir* voiced this frustration at the British reserve. "The second humiliation" read its front-page headline. "Humiliated by Charles while she was alive, will she be humiliated again by her admirers after her death?"

In Australia the *Sydney Morning Herald* offered mixed praise for the national stiff upper lip and accused the media of going over the top. "One year on, Britain is coping well

with the death of Diana, Princess of Wales... Only a few journalists and television producers seem still unable to come to terms with their loss."

None of the major American newspapers ran the anniversary as front-page news. *The New York Times* mentions it in a leading article headlined "Misplaced Mourning", only to write of last year's phenomenon: "Of course,

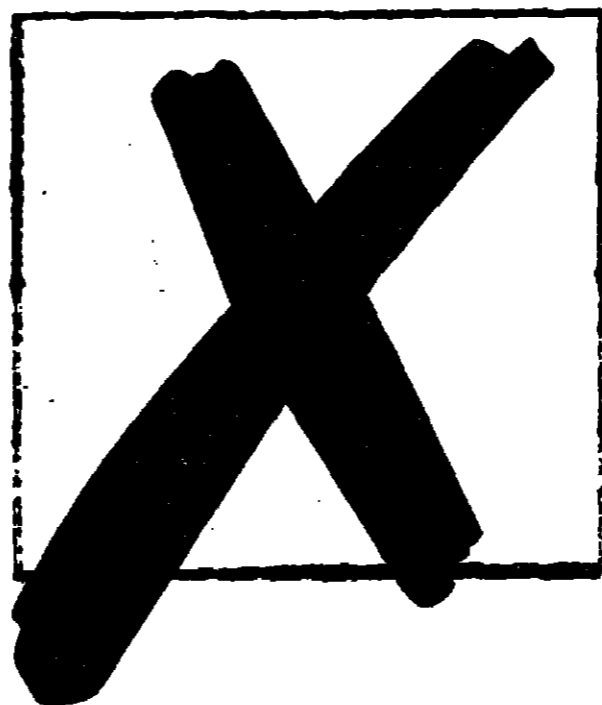
now the locals have begun to wonder if maybe it wasn't all a little over the top."

The Washington Post leading article notes that "the British public seem to be reacting with what once, pre-Diana, was considered its customary reserve". A supplementary article on media coverage adds: "Is there anybody who hasn't really had enough by now? ... Diana tried to keep her dignity in life, and

it's unseemly to try robbing her of it now."

Only a handful of other newspapers around the world reported the anniversary, with several highlighting the irony that many who went to pay tribute at royal palaces were in fact tourists from their countries. *The News* in Pakistan said that "tourists outnumbered Britons in a muted display of mourning" and that "one year after being gripped by mass hysteria over her death, the British are showing signs of 'Diana fatigue'".

WITHDRAWN



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Russians want e-mail bids for lost Nazi archive

By PHILIP KNIGHTLEY

A SECRET archive of Nazi documents — including diaries of Martin Bormann, Hitler's chief associate — said to have been seized by Red Army commandos in Berlin in the last days of the Second World War, is being offered for sale in the West.

The archive, of about one million pages, could cast new light on the war and events leading up to it. It includes not only Nazi files but French files seized by the Gestapo when Paris fell and then taken to Berlin. The Red Army sent the documents packed in steel trunks to Moscow by train and from there they were dispersed for safe-keeping to other Soviet cities and towns.

Israel Shamir, a Moscow journalist who is acting for the sale of the documents, said: "They were stacked in government rooms in any old order, the doors were locked and then just about everybody forgot about them. The only sign that anyone bothered to read any of them is a few handwritten notes on some pages made by the head of Stalin's secret service.



Bormann: his diaries may tell of Hitler's end

Lavrenti Beria." When Gorbachev liberalised the Soviet regime in the late 1980s, Moscow announced that the Nazi archive would be accessible to scholars and historians, but nothing happened. No one knew where all the trunks were and — because they had never been catalogued — what they contained. No historian had the time or money to do that.

Last year a group of Russian entrepreneurs formed a private company and proposed to

the Russian Government that it should catalogue the Nazi documents at its own expense in return for the right to exploit their contents. It has been slowly carrying out that work and has decided to market the archive.

Mr Shamir said that since there could be disputes over the legal ownership of the archive, the Russian company had, for the moment, decided to sell only copies of the documents. The list of the contents of the archive that the company has given him includes: □ Martin Bormann's diaries from January 1 to May 1, 1945, which presumably document the Nazi leaders' last days in the Berlin bunker.

□ The personal papers of Heinrich Himmler, the SS chief. Among them is a letter from the Irish poet and Nobel prizewinner W.B. Yeats, written after his visit to Germany in 1938, saying how impressed he was with Nazi Germany. □ Hundreds of letters exchanged between General Erich Ludendorff, Chief of the German General Staff in the First World War, and Walter Nicolai, head of the German Secret Service, 1919-23.

□ Correspondence between Nicolai and Hitler's deputy, Rudolf Hess, 1930-39.

□ The personal archive of Franz von Papen, the politician who helped Hitler to become Chancellor of Germany. This includes letters between Von Papen and Hitler, Himmler and Hess.

□ The original manuscripts of some of Bertolt Brecht's plays. □ Files from the French secret service, the Deuxième Bureau, revealing that Paul Ravout, a journalist who was head of Havas, the French news agency in Berlin during 1933-37, was actually a French spy.

Mr Shamir says he is not authorised to disclose who is behind the company and all negotiations with possible buyers in the West have so far been conducted by e-mail: ishmir@mailxix.com

"The company has no address," Mr Shamir said. "It lives in cyberspace."



Barbara Fowler and her grass portrait. "It isn't a compliment at all," she said, "it's quite embarrassing"

A WOMAN whose face has been reproduced in growing grass for an art exhibition is not best pleased with the result (Deborah Colcutt writes). First, she did not give her permission; second, Barbara Fowler says, "I'm sure they've added lines that weren't there originally."

Mrs Fowler's features are on display on a 20ft growing canvas in a gallery in Hull. The picture was created by Heather Ackroyd with the help of special grass developed by local scientists.

Ms Ackroyd spotted Mrs Fowler in the street and asked to photograph her. She was so struck by her strong features that she decided to make her portrait the focus of her grass image. However, Mrs

Subject cuts grass art down to size

Fowler, a pensioner, is appalled that her face is on display as part of the Photo '98 Year of Photography and Electronic Image exhibition, commissioned by Hull Time Based Arts. She said: "I'm very annoyed to see what they've done with my photo. They

didn't tell me their plans. When they asked if they could take my photo I told them to get someone younger but they said they wanted someone with strong features. It isn't a compliment at all, it's quite embarrassing.

"I've spoken to Heather and she says she is sorry I'm upset but I only live five minutes away and there's going to be a lot of people recognise me."

The work was made by planting 75kg of seed on a clay-covered wall. A slide was made from Mrs Fowler's photograph and light shone through it onto the "living canvas". Where the light is brightest, the grass grows longer, creating shadows along the face's contours.

IoD dismisses stress guidelines

By DEBORAH COLCUTT

THE Institute of Directors has claimed that new guidelines designed to protect employees from excessive stress could be counter-productive and threaten jobs.

Ruth Lea, head of the institute's policy unit, said that a document to be issued by the Health and Safety Executive this week reminding companies of their legal responsibility for the health and well-being of their staff was "laughable". "It is impossible to prove whether stress is related to work or something private and it is unrealistic to expect personnel managers to be able to find that out. Just reading the guidelines let alone implementing them will be time-consuming and expensive, especially for the smaller firms and could, ultimately, put jobs at risk."

The executive wants the Government to introduce a statutory code of practice on stress that would make it easier for workers to take civil action against their employers.

A survey by the Health and Safety Executive has shown that half a million Britons suffer illnesses related to stress at work. Jenny Bacon, the organisation's director-general, said: "This is not af-

fecting just senior executives, it is affecting managerial, professional and clerical staff, care workers, nurses and teachers."

There have been no cases of companies being prosecuted for causing stress but Northumberland County Council was ordered by a court to pay £175,000 to a social worker who had had a nervous breakdown, two years ago. Since then, many employers have settled out of court in comparable cases.

Ms Lea says that the guidelines will not stop those whom she calls the "real rogue" employers slipping through the net. "You're never going to catch those guys. Meanwhile, the good companies, the well-run organisations which do look after their staff are being penalised. These guidelines are drawn up by bureaucrats

who never think about the practicalities."

A recent survey commissioned by the IoD showed that 45 per cent of employers would think twice before taking on women of child-bearing age if additional legislation on maternity benefits was introduced. "The same will happen if these guidelines become law: employers would perhaps think twice about employing somebody with a previous mental illness where they might otherwise have given them a fresh start."

The HSE guidelines will warn employers: "It's your duty in law to make sure that your employees aren't made ill by their work." Companies are encouraged to be sympathetic towards staff who feel stressed; workers should never be made to feel that being unable to cope is a sign of failure.

Body and Mind, page 12

PICTURE TELLS A FATAL STORY



The helicopter about to crash into the sea off Korea

Moments after this photograph was taken, the Dragonfly helicopter plunged into the sea, killing the pilot and the crewman, (Richard Duce writes). At the time of the crash, during the Korean War in 1953, accident investigators were unable to determine the cause. But the photograph shows that the rotor blade had come off.

Ted Harrison, 67, who took the photograph, was a leading seaman on the destroyer HMS Consort waiting for the helicopter to deliver mail. It was not until several months later on shore leave that Mr Harrison, from Plymouth, developed his film. "I never mentioned it. It was too late and six months later the war had finished."

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Motorway shuts as gang stone motorists

By RUSSELL JENKINS

POLICE are looking for three teenagers who forced the closure of a motorway by bombarding cars with hundreds of bricks and stones from a bridge. Drivers suffered cuts after their windscreens were shattered.

About 300 missiles were thrown from the bridge across the unlit M67 in Hyde, near Manchester, on Sunday night, where the road passes through a built-up area near a large estate.

The motorway was closed for 20 minutes while police and the fire service cleared debris and removed damaged vehicles. A police spokesman said: "Given the quantity of bricks and stones thrown, it is surprising more serious injury was not caused."

"It was all the more dangerous because that stretch of motorway is unlit so the debris would not have been seen."

Matthew Kelly, 14, from Dukinfield, Manchester, had glass removed from an eye after his parents' windscreen was shattered. His father suffered cuts to his arms. Debbie Kelly, his mother, said: "We were screaming with shock. Matthew could have been killed."

A passing motorist said: "I saw 30 cars parked on the hard shoulder. It looked very dramatic." Three teenagers were seen throwing the missiles.

It is the second such incident in the area within a week. Two youths were later arrested after five cars were damaged by stones thrown by youths from a field next to the motorway.

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Nova Access Offshore	£ 150,000 - £ 500,000	£ 149,999	7.25
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showman nothing so like fail

Officers in halted trial still in Army

Mother shows son aged four

سكزا من الاصل

Showman finds nothing succeeds like failures

MOST theatre producers like to find new, successful shows. Ian Marshall Fisher goes looking for old flops. Now he is to stage a Barbian revival of a musical that failed so abysmally at its first airing that it has not been fully reconstructed for 70 years.

The idea sounds almost like the plot of *The Producers*, the film comedy about a bad-taste musical that is intended to fail. Indeed, one of the many neglected musicals favoured by Mr Marshall Fisher features a singing, tapdancing Gandhi on hunger strike. And yet his secret is that all his shows were written by some of the greatest names in theatre, and failed originally for reasons that had nothing to do with the quality of the songs.

His latest revival is *George and Ira Gershwin's Strike Up The Band*, which features songs such as *The Man I Love*. It was a dismal failure when it was premiered in 1927 because it is an anti-war comedy. Mr Marshall Fisher said: "The trouble was that most of the audience had lost husbands and sons in the First World War and were horrified."

Barry Cryer and David de Keyser will star in this month's revival of the ridiculous story about Americans going to war with Switzerland over cheese. About a fifth of the show has been neglected over the years. A softened version was attempted in 1930

Dalya Alberge
on new revival
by a producer
who provides
encores for
box-office flops

merstein "family entertainment" territory.

Mr Marshall Fisher laments how much original material was thrown away at the time: "Writers had no idea their work would be remembered. They thought they were writing for the season."

His Barbian show, followed by a BBC Radio 3 broadcast on September 26, is among events celebrating the 100th anniversary of George Gershwin's birth. Although audiences love musicals, he feels many writers are not providing the quality of the classics. The success of many revivals shows that "the demand is there, but the supply is pretty thin", he says.

"The only person who has been pushing musical theatre forward in the last 30 years is Stephen Sondheim. America this century will be remembered for two things — the Hollywood film and Broadway musical."



Ian Marshall Fisher rehearses *Strike Up The Band*, which bombed in the 1920s

LET'S PUT ON THE SHOW RIGHT HERE

Musical classics successfully revived recently include:

Carousel: Rodgers and Hammerstein's 1945 musical was revived in December 1992 at the National Theatre where it did extremely well, playing to 96 per cent capacity for 130 performances. Was described as "the hottest ticket in London". After a West End transfer it went to New York.

Chicago: Kander and Ebb's satirical tale of murder, corruption, adultery and treachery. Revived last autumn, starring Ute Lemper and Ruthie Henshall, at the Adelphi in London. Named Best Musical at the London Critics Awards. Sold out every evening since it opened in November.

Guys and Dolls: Frank Loesser's musical take on Damon Runyon's world was premiered in New York in 1950. Revived in 1996 by the National, to acclaim, with Imelda Staunton, above, as Miss Adelaide.

A Little Night Music: Sondheim musical revived in September 1995 with Dame Judi Dench, who was showered with awards for it. Ran for 211 performances, playing to 90 per cent capacity. Numbers include *Send in the Clowns*.

Oklahoma! Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, first produced in 1943 and revived in London last month by the National, with Maureen Lipman. *The Times*'s review asked whether there had ever been a higher standard of dance in any subsidised theatre. Sold out until the run ends on October 3. May transfer to West End.

Show Boat: Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein musical which has been described as one of the greatest all-singing, all-dancing shows of the century. Revived in London last May, at the Prince Edward Theatre, by an American company that had won Tony awards with it on Broadway last year. One critic said of the revival, in which Michel Bell played Joe: "Showboat is a musical that leaves you feeling better about life while also sending you home with a lump in your throat." Closes on September 14; has taken over £4 million since April.



Zero Mostel and Kenneth Mars in *The Producers*

Officers in halted trial still in Army

By TIM JONES

SIX army officers who were criticised by a judge after being acquitted of gang rape are still with the service almost a year after the trial.

They have been suspended from duty but are still drawing half-pay. Although Captains Ian Barlow and Philip Bates, Lieutenants Darren Bartlett and Matthew Tupling, and Officer Cadets Nicholas Oettinger and Andrew Stout were acquitted at Oxford Crown Court last October, Judge Julian Hall told them after their trial, which he had halted: "If six men think it is a good idea to have sex with one woman they run the risk of being accused of rape. I think they brought this prosecution on themselves."

The men's reputations were in tatters, and senior army officers expected the men to be quickly discharged. But it was not until last week that two senior army investigating officers visited the woman at home to question her in detail about what had happened.

Officers admit that it is taking a long time to complete the internal investigation. Each of seven people — the six acquitted and a seventh who was not charged — has had to be investigated separately.

The investigation that led to the charges was carried out by the civilian MoD police. Because the six were refused the MoD police refused to pass on the paperwork to the military police who had the task of investigating the allegations for a second time to see whether the Army's disciplinary code had been breached. Without the MoD police files, the military police special investigations branch had to begin its own inquiry based on court transcripts.

One senior officer said: "Each of the individuals has legal rights and everything has had to be referred to their lawyers. This is why it is taking such a long time."

The men had been accused of raping the woman at the Royal Military College of Science at Shrivenham, Oxfordshire, in May 1996.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mother shops son aged four

A mother unable to cure her four-year-old son of piffing took him to the police station where he was given a "severe ticking off" and shown the cells. Sarah Hillson, 22, from Penarth, South Wales, said her son, Roger, became a changed boy. "It may seem a bit harsh but... the message really got through."

A police spokesman said: "We are really happy to support parents like this with instilling values."

Race accident

A spectator at a Bank Holiday sports car race meeting was killed when a wheel flew off a car during a practice lap. The man, aged 30, was hit by the wheel as people gathered at Castle Coombe circuit, Wiltshire. An inquest is to be held.

Murder charge

A man aged 19 has been charged with murdering three-month-old Ryan Masters-McDaide, from Birmingham, who died from brain injuries. The man, who has not been named, will appear in court this month.

Fatal crash

A teenager died and three other passengers were injured when a car crashed into a tree as it drove at high speed around an estate at Firshill, Sheffield. Peter Fletcher, 18, who died from head injuries, was a rear-seat passenger.

Rock fans flee

Rock fans at the Reading Festival were evacuated from a campsite after a firework set light to five haystacks. Arrests during the festival totalled 64, including 22 for supplying drugs. There were 160 reported thefts and four robberies.

On the run

Burglars who broke into a flat belonging to Paul Simmons in Banbury, Oxfordshire, got away with a bag of prunes and two bottles of home-made prune wine while ignoring a video recorder, computer, printer and television.

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IRA statement a PR ploy, say Unionists

Martin Fletcher reports on reaction to republicans' condemnation of the Omagh bombing by Real IRA

A STATEMENT by the IRA condemning the Omagh bomb, demanding the Real IRA's disbandment and admitting the executions of the so-called "disappeared" was dismissed by Unionists yesterday.

They pointed out that it rejected decommissioning and offered no confirmation that the war was over. They called it a public relations ploy ahead of President Clinton's visit and said it did nothing to facilitate Sinn Fein's inclusion in Northern Ireland's new government this autumn.

The IRA's call was welcomed by Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, but she regretted that the statement offered no

movement on disarmament. David Trimble, Northern Ireland's First Minister, said: "It is simply not good enough that the republican movement should expressly refuse to say that the war is over and that they are refusing to meet their obligations under the (Good Friday) agreement."

Ken Maginnis, the Ulster Unionist Party's security spokesman, said the statement, issued late on Sunday night, was "about the ownership and control of militant republicanism". Ian Paisley, the Democratic Unionist Party's justice spokesman, condemned its "sheer

hypocrisy". It was being "lauded as a peace statement, but there is an implicit threat to the Real IRA that if they don't disband they will be sorted out in the usual manner of a bullet behind the ear".

Gerry Adams, president of Sinn Fein, welcomed the statement's "positive tone". Another Sinn Fein official characterised it as an "attempt to be helpful". He highlighted its support for the peace process, claiming that Unionists were simply trying to stall with their demands for disarmament and "war-is-over" statements.

The statement also received a

cautious welcome from Seamus McKendry, a spokesman for Families of the Disappeared, whose mother-in-law was abducted by the IRA in 1972 after she comforted a wounded British soldier.

He accepted the IRA might be "hazy" about the precise locations of bodies buried more than 20 years ago but urged it to pass whatever information it had to the RUC with its state-of-the-art equipment for recovering lost bodies. The families were not seeking prosecutions, he said. He said Sinn Fein and the IRA could do more to find the graves but had finally

realised that "you can't go down the democratic path with hidden bodies in your baggage".

"At least a dozen people were spirited away during the 1970s for 'offences' ranging from informing to petty theft and their bodies were allegedly disposed of in fields and building sites. Most were ordinary Roman Catholics but one was Robert Nairac, an SAS captain captured while working undercover in South Armagh in 1977.

The statement came in the form of an interview with an IRA "spokesperson" to be published in *An Phoblacht*, the republican

newspaper, on Thursday. Unionists claimed it was released early to relieve the pressure on the IRA before President Clinton's visit but republican sources suggested the timing was designed primarily to deepen the rifts within the Real IRA as it debates whether to call a permanent ceasefire.

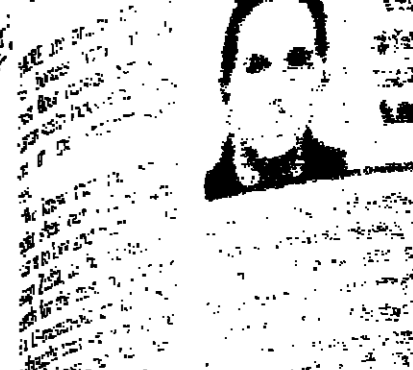
The statement said the Omagh bomb was aimed "at the peace process in general, and at Sinn Fein's peace strategy in particular". The result was a human disaster that had damaged the republican cause. The Real IRA "should disband and they should do so

sooner rather than later". The spokesman ruled out decommissioning but insisted the IRA shared "the desire of the vast majority of Irish people to see the Good Friday document deliver on its potential".

He admitted the IRA had caused "incalculable anguish and pain" by executing and burying some of the "disappeared" and said a special unit had been working since last autumn to trace the bodies. The families would be notified immediately of the results.

John McNamara, 36, a builder, was remanded in custody by the Special Criminal Court in Dublin yesterday on a charge connected with an attempt by the Real IRA to bomb the Grand National in April.

Serbs' guilt death on forest of



New laws will target homes of bombers

By NICHOLAS WATT
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

POLICE on both sides of the Irish border will be given powers to seize the financial assets of terrorists outside the peace process under the emergency legislation to be rushed through the British and Irish parliaments this week.

Republicans who planted the Omagh bomb could lose their houses if police can prove that they were used in the preparation of the bombing. The measure, which is to be included in the anti-terrorist Bill that will be published in draft form this afternoon, is designed to close a loophole in the law that gives police the power to seize the assets of drug dealers but not of terrorists.

Four dissident terrorist groups will be listed in the Bill, which is to be piloted through Parliament tomorrow and on Thursday. Members of the Real IRA, the Community IRA, the Irish National Liberation Army and the Loyalist Volunteer Force could be jailed for up to ten years for membership of a terrorist organisation on the word of a senior police officer. The Bill does not list terrorist groups such as the IRA whose political wings signed up to the Good Friday agreement.

Downing Street moved yesterday to head off a backbench revolt from Labour MPs who are concerned that rushing through legislation is a knee-jerk reaction. Tony Blair wrote to every Labour MP explaining that the measures were carefully designed to crack down on dissident terrorists who want to wreck the peace process.

A Downing Street spokesman also made clear that terrorist suspects could not be convicted solely on the word of a police officer. Judges in Ulster's non-jury courts will consider other evidence.



President Clinton with Mike Sullivan, his choice for Ambassador to Ireland, in 1995

Clinton chooses friend in stetson as Dublin envoy

By OUR CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A FORMER governor of Wyoming who has never set foot in Ireland has been nominated by President Clinton as America's Ambassador to Dublin.

Mr Clinton, who will visit the Irish capital on Friday, chose his friend Mike Sullivan, a Roman Catholic of Irish descent, to replace Jean Kennedy Smith over several better-known Irish-Americans with more obvious interest in Irish affairs.

Mr Sullivan, 58, whose nomination must be approved by the Senate foreign affairs committee, was one of the first governors to back Mr Clinton's 1992 presidential campaign, but at Mr Clinton's request he stood down to run for the Senate in 1994 and was defeated in that year's Republican landslide. He has insisted he did not ask for the Dublin post and that Mr Clinton "knows he doesn't owe me anything".

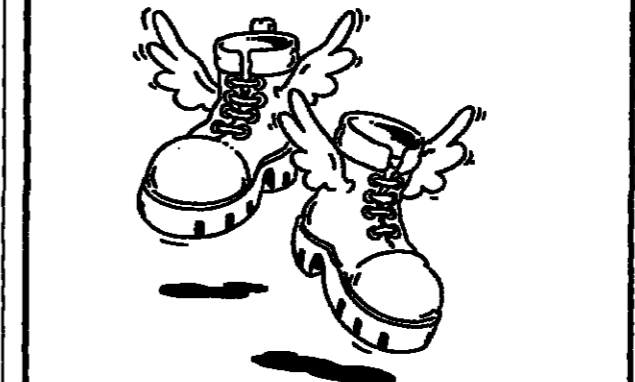
Mr Sullivan, who is recuperating after major surgery,

is a popular lawyer from Casper, Wyoming, who won the governorship in 1986 in his first political campaign and was handsomely re-elected in 1990. He intends to wear his stetson cowboy hat in Dublin because, he says, "I would be lost without having it around".

Mrs Kennedy Smith leaves her post next month after five controversial years during which she used her influence with the President to win concessions for Sinn Fein that infuriated London.

Mr Sullivan will also have access to the President but acknowledged Mrs Kennedy Smith would be a hard act to follow. "I followed some of her accomplishments and I understand how difficult that will be but I think that's to her credit and I will just do the very best I can," he said.

"I'm there to move the interests of this country forward and the interests of Ireland forward and hopefully I'm up to that."



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Disappeared, presumed dead

By MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THERE may be scores of "disappeared" whose families dare not speak out, or cling to the illusion that their loved ones were exiled. The known "disappeared" are:

- Jean McConville, a widowed mother of ten children who was abducted from her West Belfast flat in 1972 after she had comforted a dying British soldier.
- Seamus Wright and Kevin McKee, executed in 1972 for being informers. The deaths were kept secret because they were from prominent republican families in West Belfast. They are believed to be buried in fields in South Armagh.

McKee's execution was allegedly witnessed by a priest who administered the last rites.

- John Mellroy and Seamus Wright, suspected informers from Andersonstown in West Belfast who disappeared on their way to work in 1974.
- Columba McVeigh, a 17-year-old from Dungannon in Co Tyrone, abducted and killed in 1975 for suspected collaboration with security forces.
- John McClory, 18, and Brian McKinney, 22, petty criminals from Andersonstown, were abducted from work in 1978.

- Gerald Evans, an unemployed painter from staunchly republican Crossmaglen in South Armagh, who did not toe the IRA's line. He was last seen hitch-hiking home from Castleblaney.
- Charlie Armstrong, Evans's 55-year-old neighbour in Crossmaglen, left to collect a friend for Mass one Sunday in 1980 and was never seen again.
- Eugene Simmons, 23, left a New Year's party in Castlewelling, Co Down, in 1981 with a group of men. Three years later a man walking a dog found his body in a bog with a bullet hole in the temple. He was a suspected informer.

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	£5,000 - £9,999	4.80%	3.84%
CapitalBuilder	£50,000 +	6.70%	5.36%
	£25,000 - £49,999	6.40%	5.12%
	£10,000 - £24,999	6.10%	4.88%
	£1 - £9,999	5.90%	4.72%
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	£5,000 - £9,999	4.80%	3.84%
Treasury Trust Account	£1 +	3.40%	2.72%
	£50,000 +	7.00%	5.60%
	£25,000 - £49,999	6.80%	5.44%
	£10,000 - £24,999	6.60%	5.28%

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	£10,000 - £24,999	4.90%	3.92%
	£5,000 - £9,999	4.50%	3.60%
CapitalBonus 180	£25,000 +	6.95%	5.56%
	£10,000 - £24,999	6.65%	5.32%
	£1 - £9,999	6.10%	4.88%
	£1 - £9,999	5.90%	4.72%
CapitalBonus 90	£25,000 +	6.40%	5.12%
	£10,000 - £24,999	6.10%	4.88%
	£1 - £9,999	5.80%	4.64%
	£1 - £9,999	5.60%	4.48%
CapitalBonus 90 Monthly/Half-Yearly	£25,000 +	6.10%	4.88%
	£10,000 - £24,999	5.80%	4.64%
	£1 - £9,999	5.60%	4.48%
	£1 - £9,999	5.40%	4.32%
BonusBuilder	£25,000 +	5.40%	4.32%
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WORLD SUMMARY

Cantonese replaces English

Diggers find home of Polo the liar

Floods strand ten million

Threats close US embassies

Options offered

Serbs' guns rain death on Kosovo forest of refuge

THERE are brains and babies' booties lying on the forest floor outside Senik; a human scalp, locks of hair and gore in the shrapnel-torn trees.

"We knew that the Serbs might shell our village and enter it to loot and burn," said Jakup Zulfaj as he halted his search for the missing corpse of a 13-month-old child, "but we thought that we would be safe in the forest and that they would not attack the civilians."

Twenty-eight miles southwest of Pristina, the capital of Kosovo, the Albanians of Senik, their numbers swollen to more than 4,000 by an influx of refugees from more than 30 other villages, paid dearly for their presumption of sanctuary in the woodland beyond their homes.

Having first shelled their houses last Thursday, a column of Serb troops took up position on a ridge overlooking a crucible-shaped valley on the outskirts of the village. It was packed with civilians who had fled there three days earlier when they first noticed armoured vehicles gathering at an agricultural airfield across a distant plain.

The Serbs shelled the valley in a leisurely fashion throughout the afternoon, the night and the following morning.

Aside from the human remains pasted up and down the slopes, the moments of terrified pandemonium that followed the first incoming Serb shells are still visible in the charred panoply of strewn clothing and shoes, shredded sacks of flour and burnt-out tractors, metal melted by the heat of phosphorous grenades



Albanian women and children are being targeted by Belgrade's heavily armed forces, reports Anthony Loyd from Senik

used by the infantry that on Friday walked down from the ridge to follow up the bombardment by destroying anything and everything that was left. Every single vehicle and cart, packed with household belongings and supplies to ensure the survival of the villagers, many of whom were on the move for the third or fourth time since the conflict began in the spring, was destroyed.

Seventeen people perished. The youngest was a two-week-old baby, the oldest a 75-year-old woman. The 47 wounded that have so far been accounted for include, according to a witness, a mother whose hands were blown off when the child she was cradling was killed in her arms.

The accounts from survivors come from a time of absolute horror. "When the mortars started falling I was on a slope with my family," said Fatima Ramaj, 48, who lost eight of her immediate family in the onslaught. "I saw my grandson sprawled on the ground without his head. We hid under the tractors, but they too were being hit with bullets and shrapnel."

Lying beneath a dirty blanket beside his seven-year-old brother, who like him has been wounded in the head, Blerim, a boy of 13, is among those who are still in shock at losing members of their families.



Workers in Berlin install a photograph showing East German border guards during the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961. The picture is one of 22 to be hung around the Potsdamer Platz in the run-up to the opening of a new business centre there

East German coach guilty of giving swimmers steroids

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

ONE of the top swimming coaches in East Germany was yesterday found guilty of administering performance-enhancing drugs to young female athletes. Rolf Gläser, 58, only received a fine of £2,400 but the verdict is regarded as a breakthrough for prosecutors who are trying to unravel the steroid training methods used to make East Germany a major sporting power.

Gläser, 58, confessed during the trial, enabling the prosecutor to drop demands for a prison term. The coach, who headed Austria's team for the world championships this year, has been told that the conviction would mean the loss of his job.

Dr Dieter Binus, 59, who worked with Gläser as club doctor at SC Dynamo, an elite club sponsored by the Interior Ministry, was yesterday fined £3,000.

Both men were among the first to try out the blue pills concocted by the chemists of the Leipzig Institute of Physical Culture and Sport. These growth hormones were swallowed by swimmers as young

as 12 as part of a programme to strengthen their upper body muscles.

The prosecutor has now established the principle that a coach supervising an underage athlete has to shoulder legal responsibility even if he or she is just implementing a policy agreed at highest levels.



Binus: club doctor who was fined £3,000

TEMBER 1 1998

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WORLD SUMMARY

Cantonese replaces English

Hong Kong: Most children returning to school here today face lessons in a different language. (Jill McGivering writes).

A new government ruling means that three out of four secondary schools will now teach solely in Cantonese, the Chinese dialect used by most of the population. Previously most secondary schoolchildren were taught in English.

When the move was announced last year, many schools launched appeals, but only 114 of more than 400 were successful.

Floods strand ten million

Dhaka: More than ten million people stranded by floods throughout Bangladesh are in need of immediate supplies if they are to survive, the International Red Cross in Geneva has said. The United Nations has supported the country's appeal for hundreds of millions of dollars of outside aid to cope with the two-month crisis in which 500 people have died, 84 from epidemics in the overcrowded refugee shelters.

Threats close US embassies

Accra: The United States closed its embassies in the West African nations of Ghana and Togo because of security threats, officials said. They also advised the public to steer clear of official American facilities in Ghana. Security had already been tightened in Accra after the August 7 bombings of American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, which killed 258 people. (AP)

Cyprus offered two-state deal

Nicosia: Raul Denktas, the Turkish Cypriot leader, has called on Greek Cypriots to accept a confederation of two states on Cyprus as the only way to solve the island's long-running problem. (Michael Theodorou writes). The offer marked a radical departure from the United Nations-sponsored federal solution.



Diggers find home of Polo 'the liar'

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

RESTORATION work on a theatre near the Rialto Bridge in Venice has uncovered what is believed to be the 13th-century house of Marco Polo.

The discovery was made during renovation of the 17th-century Malibran Theatre. Antonio Foscari, the architect in charge of the project, said it was a Venetian tradition that the house of Marco Polo, the celebrated 13th-century traveller and spinner of far-fetched tales, was "somewhere in the area".

"Gondoliers often point out a small house next to the Malibran Theatre as Marco Polo's," he said. "The oral tradition turns out to be broadly correct, but our evidence is that it was a substantial building, and that its remains lie beneath the present theatre".

Signor Foscari said workers had found a courtyard with a well at its centre, storehouses and the ruins of a colonnaded arcade. Deeper down they dug up artefacts dating from the Roman era.

The whereabouts of the Polo family house have long been the subject of speculation, with attention focusing on the Corte del Milione, a complex of connecting courtyards and palaces on the intersection of two small canals, the San Giovanni Crisostomo and the Santa Marina. The name Corte del Milione derives from Marco Polo's unkind nickname, "Polo of the Million Lies".

The Polo family were well-known merchants in 13th-century Venice, and Marco's journeys in Central Asia and the Far East between 1271 and 1295 eventually led to publication of *The Travels of Marco Polo*.

Signor Foscari said the uncovered foundations are consistent with Marco Polo's will, which reveals him, to all intents and purposes, to have been a "man of substantial means, though not fabulously wealthy". Officials said the restoration work would be suspended while excavations continue.

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Duma plays Russian roulette with Yeltsin

THE Russian parliament's overwhelming rejection of Viktor Chernomyrdin's nomination as Prime Minister yesterday threatened to prolong the current political crisis for another fortnight and to do further damage to the country's already badly weakened economy.

As members of the Duma, the lower house of the parliament, took it in turns to savage Mr Chernomyrdin's record in office and to repeat calls for President Yeltsin to be dismissed, Russians resigned themselves to yet another protract-

ANALYSIS By Richard Beeston

ed power struggle between the executive and the legislature.

Under Russia's Constitution, the President can nominate a candidate for Prime Minister who must then be approved by both houses of the parliament. The Duma, dominated by Communist and nationalist factions, has traditionally caused the Kremlin the most trouble. However, if the lower

house does not approve a candidate by the third vote, parliament is immediately dissolved and fresh elections are called.

Only five months ago there were similar scenes in the debating chamber when the nomination of Sergei Kiriyenko was widely rejected and his nomination process dragged out for three weeks until he won his majority on the final vote.

Although his policies did not change, many parliamentarians switched their votes, partly because of the "sweeteners" offered by

Kremlin lobbyists, but also because most members feared that they would lose their seats if they were forced to go to the polls early.

The conventional wisdom in Russia today is that the country is being treated to a similar bout of political theatrics — with one critical difference. In April a delay of a few weeks in forming the Government did not matter; now, however, every minute lost could hurt the country's economy.

"The message we are trying to get across to the Russians is that stability is vitally important for

defending the economy," a Western diplomat said. "They have to move quickly to form a Government, choose an economic team and set out policies."

The timing is particularly important since the next tranche of International Monetary Fund loans, worth \$4.3 billion (£2.5 billion), is due to be transferred by the middle of the month, that is, at the same time that the final round of voting on Mr Chernomyrdin's candidacy would be due.

The purpose of the Duma's delaying tactic is twofold. The

longer the delay, the greater the concessions its members can squeeze out of the Kremlin, which at the weekend already offered to transfer to parliament presidential powers in selecting some members of the Cabinet.

The alternative for the Duma is to drag out the battle as long as possible to hamper the functioning of the Government and hope that the worsening economic situation will provoke a fresh crisis, possibly leading to government reshuffles, civil strife or the ultimate prize — the toppling of Mr Yeltsin.

The last could be a high-risk option, however, since he has made it clear that he intends to see out his term in office until 2000. And some members of the current parliament remember only too well what happened the last time they challenged the Kremlin leader, in October 1993 — he used tanks to smash their uprising.

The Russian leader may be older, sicker and weaker, but he still has political cunning and remains a match for any of the parliamentary leaders who took part in yesterday's debate.

VICTOR KORYOTAYEV/REUTERS

Financial turmoil wrecks havoc on new middle class

WHILE Russia's super-rich have their money safely in foreign bank accounts, and the very poor have for so long relied on the barter system that the value of the rouble scarcely affects them, the emerging middle class has been hardest hit by the country's financial crisis.

These are the people — teachers, lawyers, economists, accountants and the like — who, after having their modest Soviet-era incomes wiped out by the hyperinflation of 1991-1992, have spent the past six years adapting to the new conditions.

In some cases they have managed not merely to survive but to benefit, reaching

Hard-won riches were held in 'safe'

rouble accounts.

Robin Lodge in Moscow reports

levels of affluence unthinkable in the old days. On summer evenings they are particularly visible. The parks are full of well-dressed families, the children weaving through the crowds on shiny in-line skates or mountain bikes, the parents proudly filming their activities

on flashy Japanese camcorders. Everything they wear and almost everything they eat and drink is imported. Their flats are filled with Italian furniture; they watch foreign videos on their imported television sets. Once or twice a year they holiday abroad.

These are not the mafia rich; they are simply people who seized the opportunity created by the free market to work hard and make money. There are not very many of them and they are to be found only in the bigger cities; most are in Moscow.

They are still too few to have political power or influence over government policy, but this does not mean they are unimportant. On the contrary, their very existence has been one of the Yeltsin era's few successes.

Until the rouble fell, their future seemed secure, and it was no longer crucial to convert every pay packet into dollars and then change it back as you needed it. The dubious pyramid schemes and shaky investment houses had apparently all collapsed. The surviving banks were, it seemed, safe places to put your money, and could moreover provide plastic cards for convenient shopping and cash withdrawals.

Suddenly, they find their savings locked away in rouble accounts which have already lost half their real value. Those running small businesses, in



Viktor Chernomyrdin addressing the lower house of parliament yesterday before it overwhelmingly rejected him as Prime Minister

almost every case involving imported goods, find their supply costs have rocketed and many will go under. Those planning a late summer holiday in the Mediterranean will have to make do with autumnal walks at the dacha — that is, if they can take time off at all.

Andrei Tarasov had worked for ten years as a skilled fitter on the ZIL lorry assembly line when he decided in 1994 to give it all up and go into business. The previous year he had taken the train to Berlin and bought himself a second-hand Volkswagen Golf. Back in Moscow he sold it for twice what he paid for it. Two trips a month and he would be making serious money, even after the necessary payments to

avoid the extremes of import duties.

The scheme was a huge success. Last year Mr Tarasov bought a bigger flat, closer to the city centre, a second car for Lyudmila, his wife, and pri-

won't find anyone to sell to," he said. He is luckier than many, since he can afford to weather the crisis for a few weeks.

Others are more concerned about their immediate needs.

‘These are not mafia rich; they are simply people who seized the chance to work hard and make money’

ivate English lessons for Tanya, his daughter, aged eight. The family went on a two-week holiday to a luxury hotel in the United Arab Emirates. Now he is in despair. "I can't get the money out, I can't go on another trip, and even if I do I

won't find anyone to pay into a bank account — and to make matters simpler, she put her other savings into the same account. Two weeks ago she agreed to pay a builder 3,000 roubles to decorate her flat. Now he is demanding 5,000. By the time she can get her money out, probably after another two weeks, the price could be even higher.

If the Russian Government can somehow draw up a credible plan to rescue the rouble and restore some confidence in the economy, the new middle class might just survive. But for many it will mean starting all over again.

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Rouble falls on the Big Mac Index

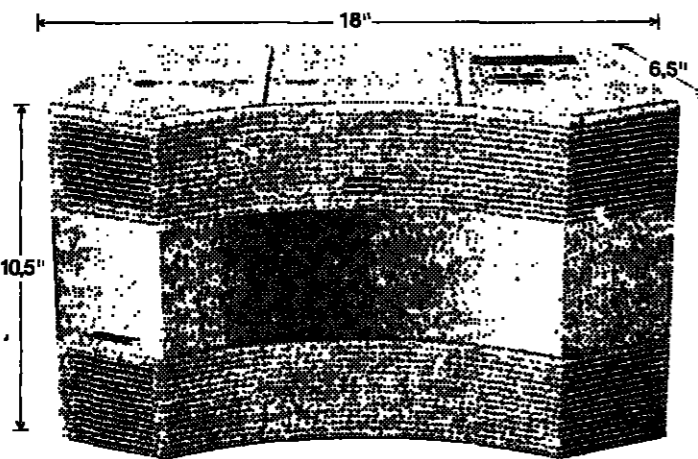


Moscow — The Big Mac Index — a closely watched economic statistic — showed yesterday that the rouble really is in crisis. McDonald's restaurants in Moscow, which kept a rate of 13 roubles to the Big Mac even as the currency's value, against the US dollar, evaporated last week, have raised the cost to 15.50 roubles. The

Economist tracks the price of the Big Mac worldwide as a way of comparing exchange rates in a theory it has dubbed "burgeromics". Those with dollars were still ahead. Two weeks ago a burger cost Muscovites more than \$2 at an unofficial street rate of about 10 roubles; a Big Mac now goes for only \$1.55. (Reuters)

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Vacuum at top leaves little to do but polish images

By Robin Lodge

SUMMIT

THE State Duma's rejection of Viktor Chernomyrdin means President Yeltsin will have no good news for President Clinton when he arrives in Moscow today. It will also leave the American side rather short of people to talk to during the two-day summit.

Both leaders are hoping to gain from the visit. For Mr Clinton, it is a welcome distraction from the Monica Lewinsky scandal and a chance to display his statesmanly abilities. For Mr Yeltsin, the talks are an opportunity to show that he is still in charge and recognised as such by the leader of the most powerful country in the world.

Konstantin Zatulin, director of CIS Countries, told the Interfax news agency that he believed both Presidents would use the summit to improve their images and strengthen their positions. "Clinton, whose image has

recently become associated with easy flirtation, will show concern and Americans will see him as a kind of strict controller of democracy in Russia," he said. "For Yeltsin, the meeting will be a certification that the heads of leading powers still consider him the President."

Had he been able to secure Mr Chernomyrdin's appointment, Mr Yeltsin would have been able to claim that Russia had taken at least one step back from the brink of disaster. Even without any decisive action on the economic front, the easing of the political crisis would have helped to calm the fears about the country's future.

As it is, it will be hard for Mr Clinton to find anyone in Moscow qualified to give him the assurances he is looking for that Russia will keep to the austerity policies advocated by the International Monetary

Fund and not go back on market reforms.

In the absence of a Prime Minister or a Government, no official working in an acting capacity is in a position to state what Russia's policy will be. Even Mr Yeltsin, who has come close to giving up some of his powers to parliament to get Mr Chernomyrdin's appointment through the Duma, has his hands tied.

Mr Chernomyrdin is highly respected in Washington as an experienced politician who survived for six years, but US officials will be concerned that any deal with the Duma will involve abandoning some of the pro-market principles that have held sway throughout his tenure.

Diplomats said yesterday they were not looking for any breakthroughs or major agreements. It will be more a summit of photo-opportunities than substance. For Mr Yeltsin, that makes it no less important. Any show of support can only benefit him.

Lebed warning on 'restless' military

By Richard Beeston

ALEKSANDR LEBED, the presidential hopeful and Governor of Krasnoyarsk, yesterday came to the defence of Viktor Chernomyrdin, saying the embattled acting Prime Minister was the only man capable of halting Russia's slide into chaos.

OPPOSITION

In the latest sign of an informal alliance between the former army general and the veteran Prime Minister, Mr Lebed gave a warning that the military was restless and the Government on the verge of collapse.

"The Government could collapse in 24 hours. Everyone is fed up," the outspoken former Afghan War veteran told *Le Figaro*, the French newspaper. "Chernomyrdin has a tiny chance to slow down the collapse, but he has a chance. The others don't."



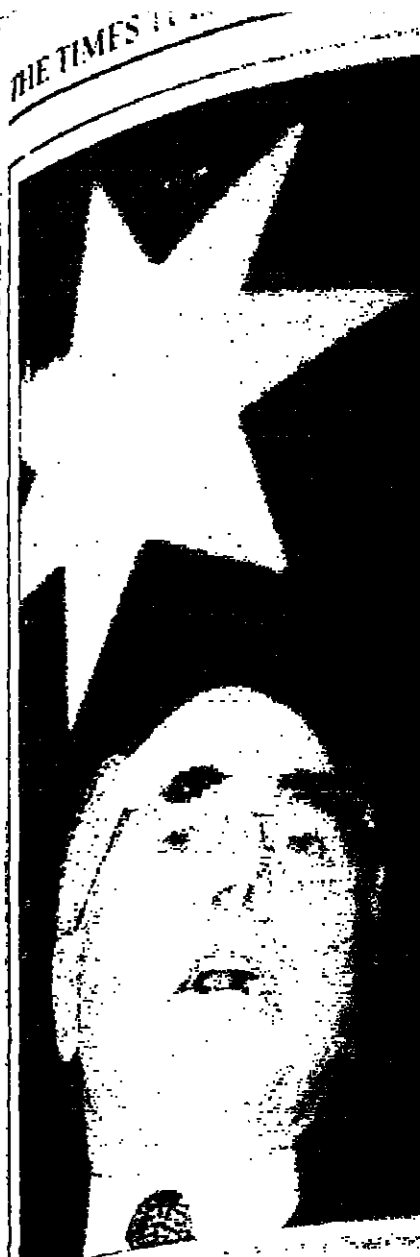
Lebed: support for the acting Prime Minister

America refuses to show panic

Washington: The United States reacted with studied calm to the Russian parliament's refusal to confirm Viktor Chernomyrdin as Prime Minister, adding further uncertainty as President Clinton arrived in Moscow for talks (Bronwen Maddox writes).

The Duma's action was a matter of internal deliberations, said a US official, "and we don't comment on another country's internal affairs". It was in accord with the Russian constitution and "reflects the reform process".

President Clinton promised again that, if Russia struggled back to the path of economic reform, the US would support it. Speaking to students at his last public meeting in America before the three-day Moscow summit, he said: "We have an obligation to help them and it is in our interests to help them." The US was concerned about the fate of Russia's nuclear weapons.



Lewinsky ready to sell her story for no less than \$100 million

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Australian parties sound racist alarm

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY



John Howard: fears gains by One Nation

FOUR former Australian Prime Ministers moved to quell the growing influence of Pauline Hanson's One Nation party yesterday by signing an open letter urging voters not to support racist candidates in next month's general election, which was called on Sunday by the Prime Minister, John Howard.

In an expression of concern at the maverick politician's groundswell of popular support in recent months, the three former Labor leaders and one Liberal warned Australians of the "unmitigated evil" of racism and urged them to put One Nation candidates last on the ballot paper on October 3.

The former Liberal Prime Minister, Malcolm Fraser, and Labor's Gough Whitlam, Bob Hawke and Paul Keating said racism was destructive and had no place in a multicultural society. "It is immoral," they said. "It does Australia significant harm through Asia and in the wider world."

"We know politicians often need to adjust policy to take into account differing views. Racism, however, is a different matter, it is beyond

compromise." They said that once racism became part of the body politic it would grow in a violent and tragic manner.

Last night Mr Hawke said it was time for Ms Hanson to be put back where she belonged — "in the backwaters". He said: "We hoped that Australians would see that we weren't seeking to advance any partisan cause, but to ask Australians to realise they would be doing a great disservice to their country if they were to give any support to Ms Hanson and One Nation."

But the woman whose policies have seemingly united all her political foes was not impressed by her critics, whom she branded a "bunch of has-beens". She said: "Too many people in politics and former Prime Ministers have looked after themselves for far too long. They've forgotten about the real reasons why they were voted in. My main concern is for Australia and for the Australian people."

In truth, the woman the other political parties love to hate could not be happier with all the criticism. Such controversy in the run-up to

the election is just what the former fish-and-chip shop owner wants. The more violent the protests against her, the greater the sympathy from the electorate.

Yesterday she published her election itinerary, and with the television news dominated by images of students and left-wing activists trying to prevent freedom of speech at her nightly rallies, Ms Hanson will capitalise on the "fair go" principle beloved of most Australians.

As her senior adviser, David Oldfield, put it: "Australians don't like to see fellow Australians being treated like that, they think our country is in the hands of ruffians and anarchists."

Ms Hanson's first big day will be on Thursday, when the party reveals its taxation package. At this stage she has also ruled out making a deal with any of the main parties.

But there is little doubt the big players will be forced to deal with her if she wins the balance of power. "They know very well that in the end they will have to work with us," Mr Oldfield predicted.



Pauline Hanson: shrugged off "has-beens"

Missile tested by North Koreans

Washington: US and Japanese officials expressed dismay last night after North Korea test-fired a new missile, the second stage of which flew across northeast Japan and fell in the Pacific (an Brodie writes). The first stage fell into waters between Japan and Russia.

Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, who was visiting Sarajevo, said she was alarmed by the test launch. She promised the US delegation would raise the issue with the North Koreans at talks under way in New York.

Indicating its displeasure, Japan refused to back a long-planned agreement to help with funds for two reactors to provide nuclear energy for North Korea. "We see this as a very dangerous act," said Hiromu Nonaka, chief government spokesman in Tokyo.

It was North Korea's first test-firing for five years and only the fourth since 1984. The unarmed missile was a new Daepodong I, with a maximum range of 1,240 miles, twice the range of its predecessor.

Lewinsky ready to sell her story for 'no less than \$10m'

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

MONICA LEWINSKY is apparently ready to tell all about her trysts with President Clinton — but only at a price.

According to one account Marcia Lewis, her mother, has persuaded her that her story is worth \$10 million (£6 million) and that she should not accept anything less. The New York Post reports that her collaborator would be Ms Lewis herself. She is a former Beverly Hills gossip writer and author of a kiss-and-tell about the Three Tenors.

Ms Lewinsky, 25, has complained of being hard up since the scandal broke last January and of relying on hand-outs from her divorced parents.

New York publishers have scoffed at the offer for her book. Nobody has ever been given such a big advance, and Ms Lewinsky is not about to become the first, said Judith Regan, head of Regan Books. She denied a report that she had offered Ms Lewinsky \$2 million for a book, but conceded that she was very interested in hearing what she had to say before making any offer.

One reason publishers may not be interested in paying astronomical sums is Ms Lewinsky's low approval rating with the American public,

Ms Regan said. Her book must be more than an account of sex romps in the White House by an "immature groupie". It would need her reflections on redeeming herself and a feel for how she sees her place in history.

Ms Regan thought it would be a mistake for Ms Lewinsky's mother to be involved in the writing, because no mother could interview her daughter about her sex life with the candour the book would require, adding: "She must have a serious ghost writer." Ms Regan's organisation is a division of HarperCollins Publishers, part of The News Corporation, parent company of The Times.

Yesterday's flurry of reports was started by The New Yorker, which claimed that an undisclosed publisher had faxed Ms Lewinsky an offer of \$6 million. If true, that would match the highest advance for a single book by an American author, which was paid to General Colin Powell, whose autobiography My American Journey was a bestseller.

The only firm public offer made to Ms Lewinsky for her story so far is \$1 million from Phil Buntson, the British-born editor of the Star supermarket tabloid. He is still waiting for an answer.

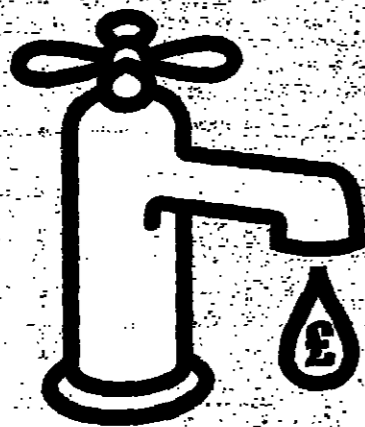


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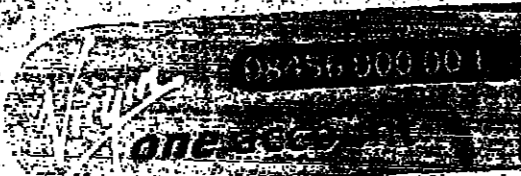
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How Marilyn hooked Miller



ARTHUR MILLER AND MARILYN MONROE, AN ILL-FATED LOVE MATCH

What made the incarnation of sexuality fall in love with the cerebral playwright? In the first extract from her new book **Barbara Leaming** reveals the remarkable secrets of Miller's notebooks



Miller in his Connecticut workshop in June 1956, a month before the wedding

It was January 1951. Elia Kazan — then probably the most powerful director in America — and the playwright Arthur Miller were in Los Angeles to set up the first film together. Kazan took Miller to the set of *As You Like It* to see a girl he had heard about. Before Miller and Kazan actually saw her, they heard her name. "Marilyn" an assistant shouted excitedly. The 24-year-old actress was forever disappearing from the set. Worse, when she returned, her eyes were often swollen from crying, making it difficult to film her. She appeared at last, her skin-tight black dress disclosing a body perfect even by Hollywood standards. She had blue-grey eyes, a turned-up nose and luminous white skin. She wore her blonde hair pinned on top of her head.

Marilyn Monroe was in crisis. When she finished work on the picture, she had no further assignments. After today, she had nothing to do and nowhere to go. A career that meant everything to her might well be over.

Miller and Kazan watched her struggle through a scene. Between takes, she fled to a dark, deserted sound stage littered with office furniture. When Kazan caught up with her he found her in tears. She returned for another take. Miller looked on as Kazan asked her to dinner. Marilyn said no, and then they went off to the studio cafeteria.

But Marilyn knew exactly who Kazan was. Now, at a moment when she seemed about

to lose everything, the important director had walked into her life. On the Fox lot Kazan was known to be casting the film *Viva Zapata!*, then being written by John Steinbeck. If Marilyn failed to seize the opportunity, it might not present itself again. It didn't matter that she was mentally and physically exhausted. Marilyn, through an act of will, pulled herself out of the mists of the depression that had engulfed her. Soon she was on her way to the studio cafeteria, having decided to find Kazan and say yes to his dinner invitation.

Marilyn began to spend nights with Kazan, while Miller slept alone. By day Miller, powerfully attracted to Marilyn himself, swam laps in the pool in an effort to cool off. Until, that is, Kazan met another girl and Miller was assigned to Marilyn as a substitute escort to a party.

She knew precisely what that meant, of course. She had slept with Kazan, then been passed on to the next guy. When Miller called to say that he would pick her up, Marilyn said it wouldn't be necessary. She would get to the party on her own. To her astonishment, the gravel-voiced Miller insisted.

Soon they were seated on a sofa, Miller leaning slightly towards her. Evelyn Keyes observed them there. Miller, utterly absorbed, watched Marilyn as though he were "study-

Marilyn interpreted Miller's shyness as a sign of respect



The odd couple: Monroe and Miller. The playwright once wrote to her saying he was not the man to make her life work out as she hoped it would

ing this phenomenon". After they had talked a while Marilyn, who believed that men only like happy girls, kicked off her high-heeled shoes and tucked her slender legs under her. Miller told her about his troubles with his wife. Marilyn would not have been surprised if he had asked her to come to his room or to the car. Probably she would have accepted. Instead, he took her big toe in his fingers and squeezed it gently.

On the way to her apartment Miller again made no move to sleep with her, though he desired her very much. Marilyn used to being pawed by men, interpreted his shyness and awkwardness as a sign of respect. No man had ever treated her like that.

But Miller held back. He thought of himself as a man of conscience. He sincerely wanted to do the right thing. How could such a man betray his wife, the mother of his children, the woman who had supported him when he was a struggling writer? Miller, torn, returned to New York the following day.

His departure left Marilyn in a quandary. She told herself that she was in love with Arthur Miller. But it was Kazan who would be staying on. Marilyn couldn't wait to see Miller again but she also didn't want to give up the

chance to be cast in one of Kazan's films.

A stack of letters from Miller was accumulating next to his photograph on the shelf above Marilyn's bed. She read by the light of a small, goose-necked lamp. Miller remained unhappy at home, where he and his wife were on bad terms.

In the months after returning home to New York from California, Miller started two plays, both featuring a wayward husband. Marilyn, whom he had known for only a few days, hovered in his thoughts. She remained as much of a fantasy for him as he did for her. In the second work-in-progress Miller wrote about a Marilyn-like woman of free and open sexuality. Lorraine, as he called her, bids men to abandon their wives and children but those who are drawn to her come to an unhappy end. One character leaves his wife for Lorraine, who, faithless, later does the same to him. Another husband, protective of his social position, condemns himself to the safety of a cold and loveless marriage.

Miller wrote to Marilyn that, though he wished her the best, he just wasn't the man to make her life work out as she hoped. But no matter how he tried to put her off, somehow she remained serenely confident that it was only a matter of time before he would leave his wife for her.



An intimate moment in Beverly Hills, 1960

TOMORROW

The mistake that blew Marilyn's chances with Laurence Olivier

more. Marilyn loosened him up. She made him grin. He seemed suddenly more tender-eyed and accessible. He seemed never to have been more in love with anyone. Arthur, it would be said in the Miller family, had had his train wreck rather late in life.

Arthur took Marilyn to meet his parents. Isadore and Augusta Miller lived on East 3rd Street. Arthur had long had an uncertain relationship with his illiterate father. Isadore — a tall, striking figure with tremendous physical authority, piercing blue eyes and a large square head — disapproved of Arthur's desire to write. But he saw things differently when Arthur introduced Marilyn as the girl he planned to marry.

"Such a charming girl, Arthur," he said as Marilyn finished her second bowl of matzo-ball soup. She wore a simple grey skirt; a black silk blouse and no make-up.

When the guest declined another refill, Isadore grew alarmed. "You don't like our matzo-ball soup?"

"Oh, I love it," said Marilyn. "But gee, isn't there any other part of a matzo you can eat?"

From their first meeting, Marilyn and her future father-in-law adored each other. Once Arthur had told his parents about his plans, Marilyn found herself on the verge of realising every aspect of what, only months before, had seemed an impossible fantasy. That February of 1956 it looked as if she were about to have everything she wanted.

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She hadn't seen him for four years, since January 27, 1951. At the time, Marilyn thought he was going home to work on *The Hook* and assumed that he would be right back. She had no idea that he had left because he feared what was about to happen between them. She had no idea that so much time would pass before they encountered one another again.

Marilyn was hardly the person she had been four years previously. Back then she had been an obscure starlet who barely knew whether she had the talent or the strength to go on. Today she was a famous movie star, one of the most valuable properties in Hollywood.

Back then Marilyn had been desperate for publicity. Today she could barely go outside without the press documenting every step. And, in the interim, she had married

and divorced Joe DiMaggio. Miller, at 39, seemed barely to have changed at all. He was still obsessed with the need to match the success he had had with *Death of a Salesman*. *The Crucible* certainly hadn't done that for him and he was about to try again with a new one-act play, *A View from the Bridge*. There was another constant in his life. Although Miller had come to the party alone, he was still very much married.

Yet there could be no denying that the connection between Marilyn and Miller remained strong. She reacted to him with the same fascination she had felt during their strange interlude in Los Angeles. As far as she could see, he was powerfully drawn to her as well. Soon, the two were meeting regularly at her apartment whenever he could steal a few hours together. As far as Marilyn was concerned, Miller's reappearance in her life made New York feel like paradise. Marilyn, electric with life, was determined not to let him go again.

At this point few knew of the affair. Arthur, then at work on the production of *A View from the Bridge*, would stop off to see Marilyn on his way home. At a moment when Miller was preparing to stage a public indictment of the betrayer, he secretly betrayed his wife. His meditations on the topic of infidelity in his notebooks and in *The Crucible* suggest that it cannot have been easy. Miller was confused, conflicted. He valued stability and routine. The anchor of a home life permitted him to write. He adored his children but couldn't bear to give up Marilyn.

On October 31, 1955, the final decree was granted in Marilyn's divorce from DiMaggio. She was free to marry again.

Soon after his 40th birthday on October 17, 1955, Arthur's wife threw him out of their house in Brooklyn. The nature of his future with Marilyn remained undecided. Both of their lives were changing so rapidly that it was extremely difficult to make plans. Marilyn insisted she didn't want to put any kind of pressure on him — but as anyone could see a permanent commitment from him was precisely what she wanted. Increasingly, marriage to the great writer and a chance to prove herself as an actress were the two halves of Marilyn's dream.

There was no question that Arthur seemed different. He had a face that might have been chiselled on Mount Rush-

'Such a charming girl, Arthur,' said his father

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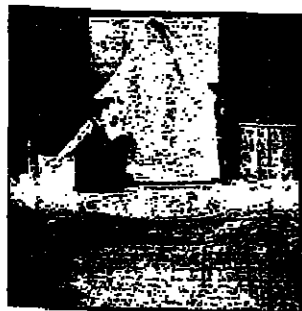
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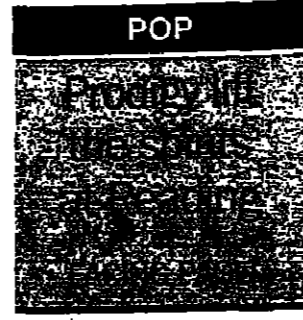
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VISUAL ART
Embroidery on show at the Serpentine

THE TIMES ARTS



Saying it with thread

GALLERIES: Richard Cork on the Serpentine Gallery show which will change your perceptions of embroidery

In the bad old days, when women artists were hard to find and embroidery was dismissed at the pastime of housewives, the Serpentine Gallery's international show would have been blasted by male derision. After all, its 17 contributors all employ thread as their principal material. Unlike so many of their contemporaries, who place the latest technological discoveries at the centre of the work they produce, the artists gathered here opt for a defiantly homespun material.

But there is nothing quaint or reactionary about the disparate images in this stimulating survey. Its title, *Loose Threads*, hints at the unpredictability of individuals who delight in confounding our expectations at every turn. Even Elaine Reichek, whose installation of embroidered samplers dominates the main space, escapes from any attempt to pigeonhole her activities. She calls the 23 samplers *When This You See...* as if her main aim is an old-fashioned act of remembrance. But the barrage of quotations she deploys could hardly be more anarchic. In a single, two-panel work, she juxtaposes the over-familiar adage "A fool and his money are soon parted" with Barbara Kruger's caustic "I shop therefore I am". They are wryly contrasted, and yet Kruger's feminist satire prompts us to look at the older quotation from a fresh perspective.

Reichek refuses to be bound by conventional limits in her array of references, encompassing anything from the Brontës and Moby Dick to Jasper Johns and the World Wide Web. Her images are just as free-roaming, and in a witty, cleverly researched video she pinpoints moments from classic Hollywood movies where heroines as lustrous as Greta Garbo, Olivia de Havilland and Audrey Hepburn all turn out to indulge in a surprising amount of needlework during their encounters with men.

But this is no ghettoised, women-only exhibition. Among the male contributors, Michael Raedecker stands out. Concentrating on the interiors of minimal suburban houses, he combines acrylic paint with thread to create an aura of suppressed violence. The rooms are empty, their simplicity impeccable.

But Raedecker stresses their desolation by wielding his needle with virtuoso aggression. From a distance, the splashes of light on some glass windows look lyrical. Closer, though, they reveal themselves as vicious white strands puncturing the linear surface of the painting. Anna Hunt shares this fascination with architecture, but she prefers to explore the exteriors of celebrated buildings securely lodged in the modernist canon. Le Corbusier's Villa Savoye, Frank Lloyd Wright's Falling Water and Frank Gehry's Guggenheim Bilbao are all painstakingly simulated by her silken, multi-coloured threads. She makes even the starkest structure look strangely cosy, using sensuous luminosity to soften the stripped, angular sobriety of the architects she favours. The outcome should look anachronistic, but her work fuses the conventions of handiwork so flagrantly that Hunt ends up with an oddly subversive hybrid.

Not that *Loose Threads* is confined solely to representational exhibits. The liberties enjoyed by abstract artists are embraced as well, and they generate some of the most poignant work on view. Bringing together wire, yarn, thread and artificial flowers, Ava Gerber links them in a looping, relaxed and fragile rhythm. She seems to draw in space, with a melancholy poise reminiscent of Eva Hesse who made a memorable hanging installation with latex over rope, wire and string in 1969-70.

Hesse's interest in unshamed absurdity and lowly, often fugitive materials has links with Lisa Hoke's *Heirloom*, a brazen extravagance of thread, glue and wax spread across several walls. Its gaudy, gaseous colours look like the residue of an explosion. Flattened against the white surfaces, *Heirloom* smears and stains its

confined space. It has a toxic, almost nauseating impact, and yet retains an odd feeling of intimacy as well. Pushing her art to the other extreme, Holly Miller shuns spectacle and favours quiet, immaculate refinement. Just as Agnes Martin hones her grid paintings into models of discreet distillation, so Miller uses acrylic and thread in images as soothing as the aptly named *Smooth*. The placid surface is sliced by stitches, but without a hint of violence. Only the unexpected breaks in the stitched lines create tension, and even then Miller minimises the disturbance by ensuring that the painting as a whole remains serene and meditative.

It is no longer derided by men as a female pastime

The presence of such potent objects, here at the Serpentine, compares favourably with other exhibits documenting activities that happened far away from the gallery. In the thoughtful catalogue, Lisa Corrin explains the full complex significance of Kim Soo-Ja's "botari," bundles of festive fabrics tied up with rope. Parting, in her native Korea, is often conveyed by the act of wrapping, especially in funeral rituals. Journeys accentuate the notion of farewell, but Soo-Ja's video of trussed "botari" travelling on a pick-up truck through a coastal landscape seems disappointingly humdrum.

I felt divorced from the event, and similarly removed from the actions performed in *Stockholm* by Francis Alys. Small photographs, maps and captions are no substitute, in this instance, for the experience undergone by the artist himself. Wearing a woollen jumper which unravels as he walked, Alys traversed the streets and left a wavering line of pale blue yarn behind him.

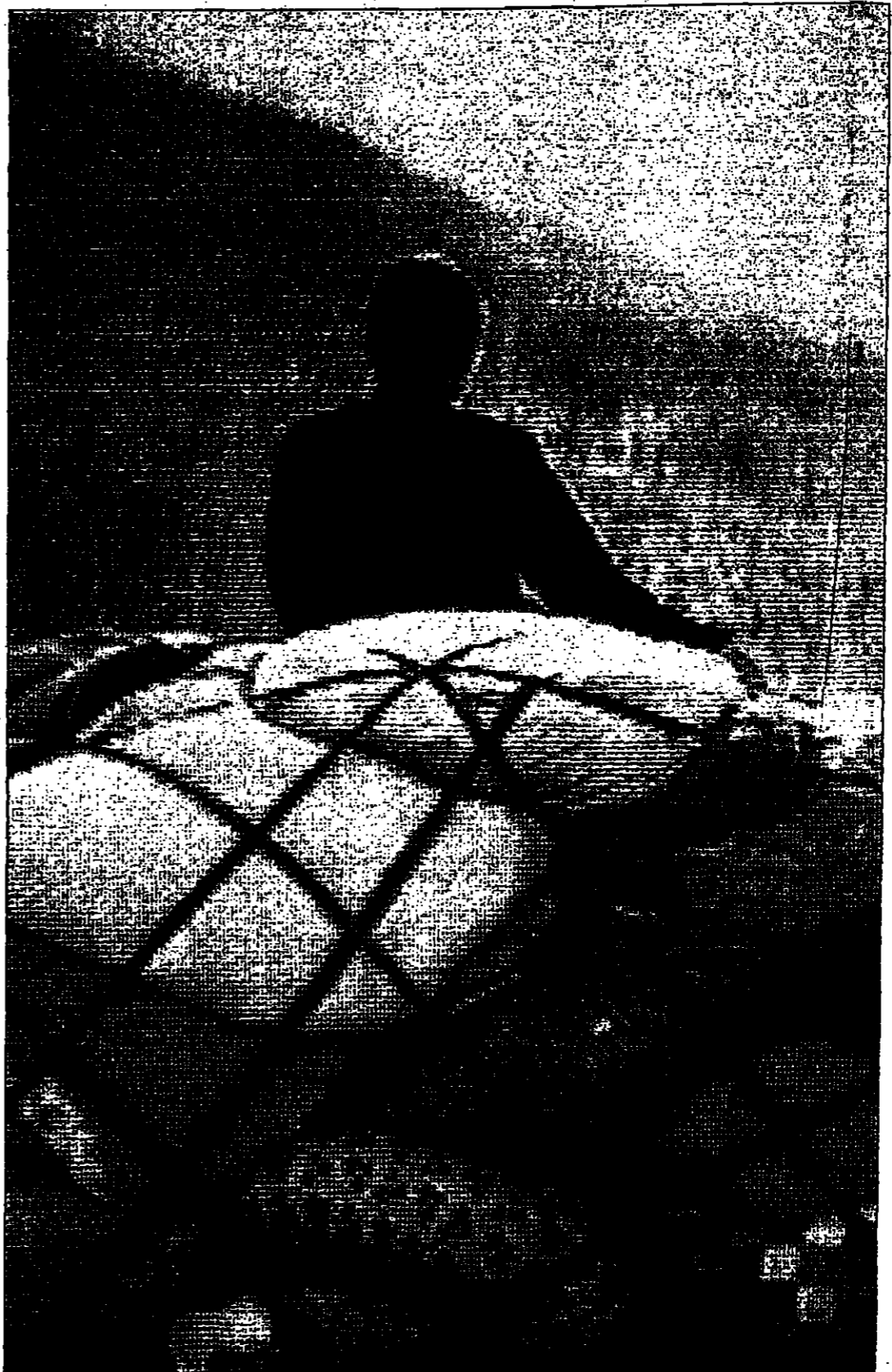
Regina Frank, by contrast, gains immediacy by performing in the gallery. At the heart of her installa-

tion, *The Glass Bead Game*, hangs the "magic mantle" produced by spinning the artist's favourite texts into textiles. Dressed in black, she moves like an elegant shaman around her space and invites viewers to join in by sharing poems and stories or e-mailing them to her website. Frank regards them as "thread-sentences", and adds them to a "virtual" mantle of "thought-heads" on the computer. But the real mantle provides an arresting visual anchor, and she often kneels before it to draw in the sand like an absorbed child on the beach.

The symbolism of the bead, derived in Frank's work from Herman Hesse's novel of the same name, chimes with the plexiglass bubbles in Brigitte Nahon's exhibit. Strung across the window looking on to the Serpentine's lawn, they are suspended by pins on long, dangling threads. Each bubble contains an inverted reflection of the view, bringing the landscape into the gallery. It smacks, once again, of childlike wonder, but offers in the end a far more vulnerable vision than Frank's slow, measured ritual. The bubbles might easily fall from their precarious perches, dashing any illusions about the safety of the world Nahon has created.

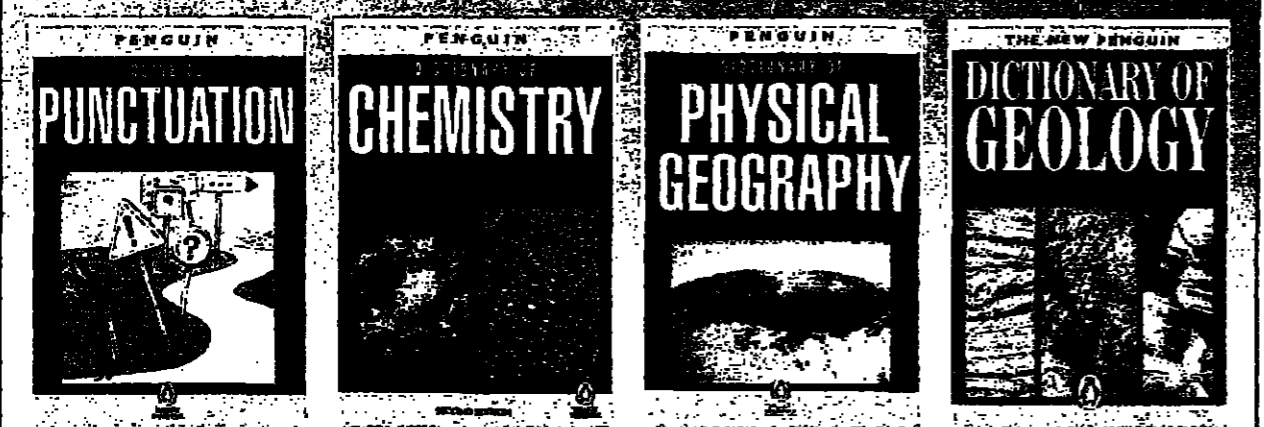
In this respect, she can be related to Tracey Emin, whose appliqued blanket provides at first a nursery-rhyme air of happiness. The artist's name and the work's title, *Love Poem*, are announced in large pink capitals at the top of the blanket. But the poem itself, in smaller, multicoloured capitals below, soon becomes disturbing. The poet imagines her whole body is screaming, and her lover unable to silence it. She feels fragmented to the point of utter obliteration, and yet the poem concludes by admitting that every smashed particle still belongs to him. The comfort normally associated with a blanket turns out to be useless in the face of such destructive infatuation, as cancerous as the invisible, burrowing worm in William Blake's poem *The Sick Rose*. This time, no amount of patiently applied thread can alleviate the pain.

Loose Threads at the Serpentine Gallery (0171-402 6075) until Sept 20



Embroidery on video: Kim Soo-Ja's *Cities on the Move - 2727 Kilometres Bottari Truck* (197)

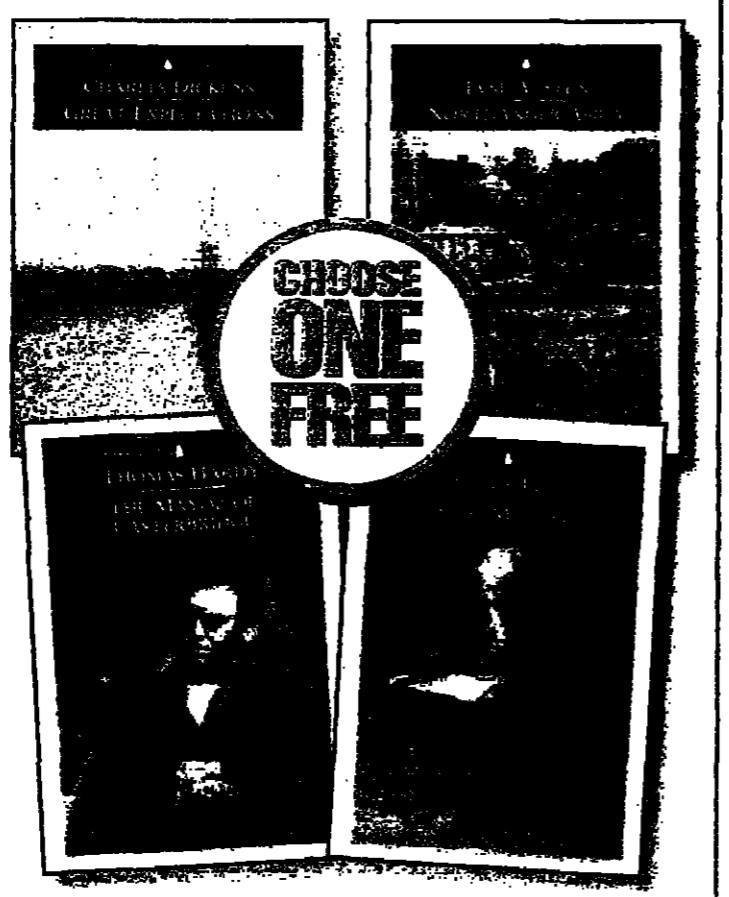
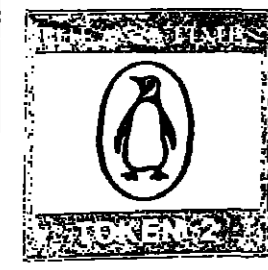
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CHANGING TIMES

PROFESSIONAL writers get infuriated whenever painters, totally inexperienced in the literary arts, decide to take up their pen because they nearly always prove to write like angels. Possibly painters feel the same way about musicians who take up painting. The show *Musicians as Artists* at Gallery Z7 should offer the perfect opportunity to find out. It includes a couple of big names in terms of jazz and popular music, plus several lesser luminaries. The star, from all points of view, is Miles Davis. Apparently he started painting in 1980, mainly to amuse himself, though his fame as one of the creators of cool jazz meant that from early on his painting received some publicity. He was largely self-taught, and began with primitive figures, but soon moved on to freiform abstraction, though always with a representational base.

THE concept of "Nazi Chic" is guaranteed, even today, to make a lot of people feel very uncomfortable. Even if it is relevantly invoked in relation to Polish New Yorker Piotr Uklanski's installation *Nazis* at the Photographers' Gallery, the gallery felt worried enough to put out a special disclaimer saying that it has "no intention of glorifying the evils of Nazism". In fact, Uklanski's idea does not seem particularly political one way or the other. One could well, especially as the installation runs round the walls of the gallery's café, treat it as a Trivial Pursuit: check out the hundred or so pictures of actors playing Nazis in films, see how many actors an films you can identify, and only then look at the list helpfully posted up by the door. If the work demonstrates anything more serious, it is that any character played by an actor like Marlon Brando, Michael Caine or Richard Burton is bound to be glamorised by the fat, and that most people of Uklanski's age (30) or younger get their history mainly from films. Photographers' Gallery, 5 Great Newport St, WC2 (0171-831 1772) until Sept 12

John Ruisell Taylor

Better second time around

A LAST-MINUTE change of cast raised Glyndebourne's *Prom Bocanegra* on to an altogether higher level than the performances at the festival proper. There Giancarlo Pasqueto lacked the vocal artillery and stage presence for the title role, leaving a hole at the centre of Verdi's opera. On Saturday Paolo Gavanelli flew in to show just how the part should be sung — and acted. He is an experienced Bocanegra and stood in for a couple of performances at Covent Garden a few years ago. But this was far more than a piece of popular show-savvy. Gavanelli, sounding much like Bruson in his prime, burrowed through to the heart of the corsair of Genoa. He pointed each word and phrase in a baritone of considerable dynamic range. Bocanegra the ruler and Bocanegra the tortured loner came equally easily to him. His performance, which made it seem that he had been at Glyndebourne all summer, commanded the evening. He is due to appear in Covent Garden's new production of *Luise Miller* this coming season. Note the name. David Rendall provided a second rescue act. The

PROMS
Simon Bocanegra
Albert Hall/Radio 3

Gabrielle Adorno, Michael Sylvester, who had left the production after disagreements, was due back for the Prom. He too cancelled and Rendall, who did half the Sussex *Bocanegras*, answered a second call-up. This was a sporting gesture with his first Otello due at the Coliseum in under a fortnight. On present vocal form it will be well worth hearing. The rest was as in Sussex and very high-class. Elena Prokina's sweet Amelia soared her notes high into the Albert Hall. Alastair Miles was property patrician as Fiesco and Peter Sidhom stalked the stage with his stick, the essence of villainy. All the principals were dressed in black, appropriate for this most sombre of Verdi operas. Mark Elder was again masterly in the pit, emphasising the darkness of the score as well as its warmth.

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THE TIMES TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1 1998
POP: Stephen Dalton
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POP: Stephen Dalton enjoys three days of peace, love and a certain tired mediocrity at the Reading Festival

Familiarity breeds content

Rounding off a summer season marred by cancellations and appalling weather, the annual three-day Reading Festival was a pleasingly well-attended affair. If music on offer leans towards nostalgia and familiar faces, this was more an indictment of a moribund music scene...



Once, the Beastie Boys were the voice of disaffected youth. These days, they like to intersperse their nasal raps with forays into instrumental jazz

The main headliners were Jimmy Page and Robert Plant, the recently reunited survivors of rock titans Led Zeppelin. Dissenters might knock this grizzled duo for their advanced years, but time has hardly blunted their thunderous attack...

claimed American singer-songwriter Elliot Smith caused a similar stir with his crafted campfire ballads. Admittedly some younger artists proved more adventurous with their plundering of the past...

hosted a warmly received set by Oxford guitar trio Supergrass, who seem to have abandoned their worrying drift towards plodding rock traditionalism and rediscovered the bouncy pop dynamism which made them so likeable in the first place...

an aggressive speech merely reinforced the ugly machismo behind this morose song. The Beastie Boys themselves made no comment on the incident, which could be construed as an elegant riposte in itself...

They may be more fiercely fashionable than ever, but the Beasties proved merely competent rather than exciting. Salvation finally arrived on Sunday in the form of New Order, who stole the festival's single moment before they played a single note...

rockers Joy Division, this four-piece united old and young fans alike in warm-hearted celebration. Very few bands can treat their own much-mythologised past with such gleeful iconoclasm and still emerge with it intact...



The all-singing, all-dancing, all-amazing La Pantera Imperial, Carlos Santos's bravura reconstruction of Bach

Two grand pianos and a pianola battle each other in a sinister game of musical dogdoms. A harpsichord plays a prelude while being spun round on a revolving platform. A baritone crooning an aria rouses a woman to noisy orgasm by sliding a torch over her quivering curves...

Flip your wig to crazy dude Bach



EDINBURGH 98 The Imperial Panther, significantly refers not to Bach but to the grand piano - an instrument invented decades after his death. Yet La Pantera is provocative, inventive and great fun. True, it treats Bach's music irreverently...

ple sweep up props from the previous scene into a pile of rubbish, one may guess that Santos is saying something about how great music lives on after all the human bric-a-brac surrounding its creation has died. And when the company scatters shoes (or, more poignantly, shoeboxes resembling children's shoes) round the stage, one may conjecture that the epic fertility and high infant mortality rate of Bach's family are being evoked...

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marti Hargie. LONDON BBC PROMS: One of America's finest ensembles, the Los Angeles Philharmonic under its brilliant young conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen...



Penelope Keith stops mourning in Guildford

ELSEWHERE EDINBURGH: Soprano Amanda Rocco joins the baritone Olaf Bar to present Wolf's great song collection, Spaniards Under Fire (October 1st, 7pm)...

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Breaking up before it's taken off

Michael Gove argues that the euro will not travel well

I was while in the thick of the recent turbulence abroad that I realised how fragile were all the arguments for the single currency. The turbulence I experienced was not on the Moscow markets, but on the British Airways flight from Lyons to Heathrow. And while the fragility of the Boeing airframe was my first concern, it proved much more robust than the case for the euro. As I reflected on a brief trip to France, all the arguments for economic and monetary union seemed to disintegrate like a badly patched Tupolev trying to break the sound barrier. There is nothing like a holiday in Europe to make you realise how silly a single currency would be.

Honest advocates of the euro build their case on three shaky pillars. First, a single currency would, by eliminating the distorting effects of national variations, make all prices transparent. The real cost of a kilo would be instantly comparable from St Tropez to St John's Wood.

Secondly, a single currency would be more convenient for all who do business or take pleasure abroad by replacing the different coins, in the wallet or on the balance sheet, with a simple medium of exchange.

Shoppers already know how to juggle two forms of currency

Thirdly, even if we want to stand aloof, the adoption of the euro by our partners will intrude in all our dealings. As our business pages record today, British firms are already preparing to deal in euros. So, with the euro inevitably in use at our own checkouts, we may as well drop superfluous old sterling.

All these arguments are as beguiling, and bogus, as the nightclub patter of a Monaco playboy. They are just sweet nothings.

Price transparency is already a reality, thanks to the Internet. A few clicks of the mouse enable any consumer to get round the elaborate defences of travel agents and compare the prices of the world's airlines.

Although most of us are still more likely to call Trailfinders than use the Net, an increasing number of tourists have found that the extra minutes spent scrutinising flight times and prices on their PC can secure them a better deal than any travel warehouse. And the Internet extends across the globe and not just one half of one continent. It entrusts the customer more effectively than any currency can, and makes him monarch of a much larger domain than euro-land.

But you do not need a laptop to know how technology has zapped the second argument for a single currency into fragments. All you need is a cash-card. The idea that the foreign traveller must spend precious leisure time counting his centimes in the Bureau de Change before leaving is growing daily more anachronistic.

The tyranny of the Bureau de Change has been overturned by the guillotine-edge of the Cirrus card. The same technology that allows you to extract the thick end of E50

from a hole-in-the-wall in Aberdeen lets you extract the price of the *prix fixe* menu from a machine in the Dordogne. And, indeed, the price of a DKNY shirt in Manhattan. We already have an effective single currency for the civilised world and no one with a cashcard should need Thomas Cook again.

As for the third argument in favour of the single currency — the confusion that might arise if the euro circulates in parallel with sterling — one can only ask euro-fans to wake up and smell the *caffe latte*.

Britons are already used to operating with parallel currencies. My journey to Lyons was paid for by one — British Airways Air Miles. Customers at supermarket checkouts are already familiar with another — loyalty points. Consumers are already adept at brokering their own arbitrage between these currencies by altering decisions about airline tickets or the week's groceries on the basis of trade-offs between sterling and these other new currencies. Just because we use a particular, and robust, medium of exchange for one transaction does not mean we should hand over control of our national economy to whoever runs it.

It makes no more sense for Britain to give up management of its main economic levers to the European Central Bank just because we happen to see euros in use at Tesco, than it would to let Tesco run the country because its loyalty card points are insulated from inflation. Indeed, the existence of these parallel currencies and all the technological advances that render the euro redundant actually reinforce the strongest argument against monetary union — its denial of real competition.

Modern consumers are promiscuous. The existence of air miles and advantage points are attempts to anchor the buyer to one outlet. They have developed as a result of the decay of loyalty in a less deferential age. It is then all the more ridiculous that, just when we grow more accustomed to rejecting those who do not deliver what we require, we are being asked to embrace a device that will rob us of our most important choice.

Adopting a single currency would mean surrendering, forever, the right to choose who runs our economy. Whoever we elected to govern the country would be incapable of adapting the economy to our demands because interest rates would be fixed by foreigners we could not sack. A single currency would render opaque what should be the most transparent question of all — who governs.

Turbulence concentrates the mind. And focuses it on the pilot's skill. As the world's markets seem set for further convulsions, do we really want to be belted in, on a course set in calmer times, heading for the hardest of landings?



Carved with pride

Cold stone is the best medium for commemorating those we have loved

Lately, as seas of newsprint lapped around the closing days of Diana's year, an old ballad has run insistently through my head. *The Unquiet Grave* is one of the most perfect poems in the language, and well suits the gathering autumn.

*The wind doth blow today, my love
And a few small drops of rain
I never had but one true love
In cold grave she was laid.*

The lower weeps on the grave for a year and a day. From the grave, though, come no soft words of consolation. This is no mawkish Hollywood ghost, no reverent delivering sappy messages to stout peroxidized psychics; not even a romantically unquiet spirit dashing around on moorland to tap distractedly at a Heathcliff's window. A harsh and honest report is delivered to the living.

*The twelvemonth and a day
being up
The dead began to speak
"Oh who sits weeping on my grave
And will not let me sleep?"*

The lower pleads for one last kiss, and is rebuffed with a scornful realism that belongs to an age less squeamish than ours, and more willing to acknowledge the skull beneath the skin.

*You crave one kiss of my clay-cold lips
But my breath smells early strong
And if you kiss my lips, my love*

Your time will not be long. There is no commerce between the living and the dead. All things and all people wither. Respect the dead but let them go.

To the ancient and anonymous first singer of that ballad, a year and a day seemed the right limit for the more extravagant displays of grief. It still does. Obviously it would be fatuous to equate the popular and media remembrance of Diana, Princess of Wales, with the real grief of those who really knew her; but that is all the more reason why, with the twelvemonth and a day passed, we should cease our figurative weeping on her grave. Publishers and media should stop raking over her. Radio hosts should stop encouraging people to read out terrible poems. Snipid evangelicals should stop opining on the

state of her soul. Conspiracy theorists should put a sock in it. The three families should refrain from bickering. All that the living need now is a decent, permanent memorial to nod to.

Maybe the trouble is that we do not yet have one. If the past year has shown anything, it is the panic and confusion of a post-Christian, self-consciously modern age which has forgotten how to create enduring memorials when high emotion is involved. Early on, there was much excited talk about how Diana, that warm compassionate modern creature, must not be commemorated in "cold stone" but by "living" memorials. Hence the ill-

governed, chaotic, taste-challenged memorial fund with its margarine tubs and scratchcards and overscented candles and mawkish plush teddies; and hence assorted vague government proposals dreamt up by a committee under the

Chancellor, like community children's nurses (funding and organisation still uncertain) and the "recognition" of young people's community service (nobody seems to know quite how). Oh, and perhaps a coin, eventually. We already have the stamps.

Then there is the garden, about which enough has been said. It transpires that whatever happens in Kensington, there are already three Diana memorial gardens, with dozens more in the pipeline. Fine: a garden is a good place for reflection, and reflection is a better tribute to the dead than burning a smelly candle in front of a plush teddy while eating margarine and scratching to win the price of a holiday. And of course, there is Althorp Park with its temple and its island urn: these are so far (for what that is worth) the things most recognisable as proper memorials. But they are not fully public.

Elsewhere, a council has put up a hideous rocky sculpture and been forced by public opinion to take it down again; Mohamed Ali Fayed has erected a Diana and Dodi shrine in Harrods; and a camera-toting corre-

spondent to *Private Eye* magazine has sent in evidence that a zoo in Cambridgeshire now boasts a Diana, Princess of Wales, Memorial Reptile House. You couldn't make it up.

None of this amounts to the original tearful challenge to supplant "cold stone" and tradition with something worthier and warmer. So, in a mood of late-August melancholy, I set out one morning in a cold wind and a few drops of rain to see what mere stone could have done — could yet do — to produce a memorial simple, heartfelt and enduring enough for anyone who ever lived. Stone, after all, has been good enough for centuries of others who were once vivid, feeling human beings.

The expedition was to Blickling Hall, near Norwich, which all this summer, understatefully, has held in its gardens a unique exhibition. *The Art of Remembering*. It is a

showcase for the memorial art, which is undergoing a remarkable revival in Britain. One woman has been midwife to this revival, putting traditional hand letter-cutters and sculptors in touch with mourners looking for a gravestone which is not heartlessly computer-cut by machines on shiny imported slabs. She also helps them to negotiate with churchyard authorities. Harriet Frazer lost a stepdaughter, Sophie Behrens, in 1985, and her struggle to find a simple, beautiful gravestone made her found Memorials by Artists to make it easier for others: hundreds of lovely stones, and a number of private garden memorials, stand today as proof that she touched a real spring of need.

To go to Blickling, or read the catalogue book with the artists' modest statements, is to see how wrong our age has been to dramatise and sentimentalise and deny death, and to strive so violently for originality and "relevance" in remembrance. Half an hour there in the drizzle convinced me that there is still nothing that expresses loss and respect and resignation and dignity as much as the old

simplicities: a piece of stone cut with artistry and care, a text lettered with real feeling and cut in a deep chiselled "V" shape to catch the light. The artists have produced many kinds of memorial: tall obelisks, a bell in an arch, a stone doorway, a poem on a pillar, a rough stone lettered "For life and death are one even as the river and the sea are one", with both lines flowing into the same "are one"; benches, plaques, vases; Johnston's and Kindersley's flowing forms, Eric Gill's lovely open lettering.

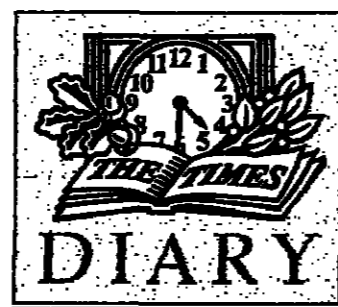
There are wooden memorials, too, and a cast-iron plaque dedicated to John Harrison, inventor of the marine chronometer. Sorrowful or playful, solemn or intimate, what the memorials all have is an effortful, hard-won unity and flow and freedom. Life comes out of tension: the tension between the abstract intellectual power of lettering and the natural permanence of stone, harmonised and mediated by the craftsman's hand and the mourner's desire. They are subtle. "Can a stone catch emotion?" asks a sign in the indoor section of the exhibition. Oh yes: catch it, and make sense of it too, and transmit it on down the generations, lightening the mourners' burden by passing on love and regret to future generations.

This is a great tradition in Britain: our 18th-century churchyard stones had a warmth and personality to them which still delight today. We produced Eric Gill, we still produce young people, who although it will never make their fortune, devote their lives to the hard, dusty, beautiful art of letter-cutting. They study to make sculpture unite the living with the dead and the unborn. We, of all nations, should have been able to set aside frippery and make a decent and thoughtful memorial to the Princess.

And then let her go, and get on with life without invoking her name every 20 minutes in connection with some new fad. Cold stone will do nicely. As the ballad concludes:

*Down in yonder garden green
Love, where we used to walk
The fairest flower that ere
was seen
Is withered to a stalk.
The stalk is withered dry,
my love
So will our hearts decay
So make yourself content,
my love
Till God calls you away.*

Libby Purves



recalls: "I was given a copy of the BBC phonebook — three quarters of an inch thick, five maps, yellow pages, adverts, town orchestras and 20,000 names. And I thought: Good Lord, I've taken over responsibility for Basingstoke."

Ted's passion

THE disclosures about Sir Edward Heath's "lost love" enlivened many a weekend breakfast table. But did some of the prints miss the point about his soulmate? Heath's wartime relationship with Kay Raven, a doctor's daughter who ended up marrying an RAF pilot and hero, was widely described as "chaste".

The genesis of the reports was an excerpt from *The Course of My Life*, his forthcoming memoirs: "Knowing each other in so many different ways, we corresponded frequently throughout the war." One of Sir Edward's former ministers insists that the phrase, crafted to protect Raven's family, amounts to a magisterial nod and wink: "Rumours abound about him. But one of the certainties about Sir Edward is that while he is no flirt, he is attracted to strong women, unless they are called Margaret."

● TO ESCAPE a writ, the makers of *Rogue Trader*, the film about Nick Leeson's exploits in bringing



FOR the past year, Sean Hughes, Mark Thomas, Paul Kaye, aka Dennis Pennis, and half a dozen other comedians have been checking in to the psychiatric wing of an East London hospital. On arrival, they have sat as still as possible while patients observed them from afar. The results, a splendid series of portraits (Hughes, left; Kaye, right), will go on show for three weeks at Guildhall on Thursday. Hughes tells me: "A lot of comedians are quite edgy characters themselves. The life classes must have been excellent therapy for other people who feel they don't quite fit in." A case of the lunatics taking over the asylum?

about the collapse of Baring Brothers, have been forced to spell its name with two Rs.

Pony express

STING has had to face a conflict between his love of animals and his horse-loving family. When the musician arrived at Villa Palaggio, a



200-acre estate in northern Italy, for a holiday, Trudie, his wife, and Coco, his seven-year-old daughter, began moaning about missing their four-legged friends. To keep them quiet, Sting gallantly transported the beloved horses overland from his country mansion in Wiltshire, at a cost of £3,000.

EDWARD WELSH

Blair Savaged

LILY SAVAGE triggered a full-scale security alert in Edinburgh at the weekend after almost crashing into the Prime Minister's bedroom. The comic female impersonator, also known as Paul O'Grady, and Tony Blair were staying in the same wing of the five-star Caledonian Hotel: Savage (pictured) to appear at a Fringe gig with Jo Brand and Julian Clary, he to prepare for his stay at Balmoral with the Queen. In the wee hours, the entertainer, nicknamed "the Blonde Bombiste", was groping her way back to her room, bag in one hand, heels in the other, when she was suddenly surrounded by gun-toting protection officers assigned to the PM and his entourage.

"They had no idea who she was or what she was up to," says my friend with a service trolley. "They frisked her and asked some questions. Nobody had been told the PM was staying in the hotel for the night and Savage just wondered what all the fuss was about."

Once Blair's bodyguards had established that the *Blankety Blank* compe was not a threat to national security, she was allowed to tatter on to her own room. I commend the hotel receptionist on his sense of humour; to book both the PM and a transvestite comic into near-adjacent rooms shows a degree of drollery that Savage would envy.



the delights of the job: "We cooked for the entire Cambridge University rowing team and it was fantastic," says Clarissa Dickson Wright. Such muscle definition in their thighs! We had to go to cook for the nuns of Connemara immediately afterwards to cool down."

Third degree

THE Prime Minister's obsession with charting the "Third Way" cuts little ice with his Oxford mentor.

● ON HIS first day as Chairman of the Beeb, Sir Christopher Bland

The Third Way? A cul-de-sac

Tim Hames says Blair must drop the Clinton style

Bill Clinton and Tony Blair will meet in Northern Ireland on Thursday for the laudable purpose of promoting the peace process. They are due to convene again in New York three weeks later for a conference on the "Third Way". This will form part of a series that is expected to involve Gerhard Schröder, should he become German Chancellor. After all that has been revealed about the US President's private preferences, an outsider might wonder whether the Third Way is a philosophical or a sexual position.

Nonetheless, the Prime Minister seems determined to stick with Mr Clinton despite his mounting difficulties. Downing Street may be contemplating its own Third Way between past enthusiasm for the damaged President and a more measured support in public. But the new Labour leadership's forthcoming series of dates with Mr Clinton appears to confirm that it is, privately, still in love with the President.

There is a great deal that the Prime Minister can learn from the Clinton Administration, but those lessons are almost entirely negative. They are no less important for that.

Mr Clinton's current condition is almost exclusively the result of his own irresponsibility. But the impact of recent scandals has been amplified because of three factors that have been consistent features of his presidency. The first is the Administration's obsessive reliance on opinion polls over principle in determining policy. The second has been an over-aggressive attempt to control and manipulate the American media. The third error has been Mr Clinton's own third way, the pursuit of "triangulation". Since 1994 his strategy has been intentionally to distance himself from his party.

Mr Clinton once considered all these elements essential to his electoral success. They were also admired by many Labour strategists. They have now rebounded and returned to haunt him. Mr Clinton's apology for an apology concerning Monica Lewinsky was drafted on the advice of his legal team but shaped by his pollsters. Surveys showed that the public did not much care for Kenneth Starr, the special prosecutor, did not like all the hard detail emerging and thought that the whole matter had reached quite enough attention. Mr Clinton told his fellow citizens, as usual, what he thought they wanted to hear. It was a huge misjudgment. What Americans sought from their President was not an echo-chamber but confession and contrition.

The American media, having felt abused and misinformed by the White House for so long, promptly turned on Mr Clinton with a vengeance. Democrats throughout the United States are already scrambling to put spaces between themselves and their national leader. They have felt little loyalty to the President because he did exactly the same to them when it suited his interests. The Clinton era should represent final proof that governments of the polls, against the press and away from the party will not flourish in modern democracies.

The collapse of the Clinton White House should concern Downing Street. For Mr Blair and his inner circle have been consistently tempted by Clinton tactics. This Government has been cautious to the point where one can imagine the Prime Minister wearing a safety-belt while seated in a parked car. Macroeconomic policy has been built around the need to retain middle-class affections. Public money has been hurled at health and education largely because they are, in Gordon Brown's words, "the people's priorities". Civil liberties have been sidelined in the quest to look tough on crime. However, on the real hard choices, such as fundamental welfare reform, Mr Blair, like Mr Clinton, has occasionally spoken but not inhaled.

The Government has adopted its communication techniques straight from the Clinton Oval Office. Downing Street has sought to ration the supply of news to the media in the hope of writing its own headlines. When the Prime Minister has himself in unexpected trouble — as with the Bernie Ecclestone saga — his press office has adopted the Clinton approach of releasing the relevant facts reluctantly and slowly.

Mr Blair also seems to have become bored with the tiresome task of modernising the Labour Party. He seems inclined to let it sit on one side while he concentrates on his personal standing in the country. The consequence is a more presidential style, if not a presidential system, of politics. These American imports have been exceptionally effective in the 16 months since the Prime Minister came to power. They may allow him to dominate the scene for some time to come. But the Clintonian strategy will not last for ever, nor will it need an act of reckless personal indiscretion to undermine it. A downturn in the economy, a serious Cabinet split over proportional representation, or a more conventional form of political scandal could serve as the catalyst. The ephemeral and fickle nature of opinion polls will be exposed, the media will revolt as never before, and the downtrodden Labour Party will rediscover its sense of independence. Mr Blair, like Mr Clinton, will count the cost of his current practice.

سكزا من الأهل



The night sky in September

NOZBACH HILSON

By MICHAEL J. HEYDRE
ASTRONOMY CORRESPONDENT

MERCURY is a morning star rising nearly two hours before the Sun on the 1st. The -1.0 magnitude inner planet should be visible in the dawn sky during the first ten days of September but will be closing with the Sun to be at superior conjunction on the 25th. It will then emerge from the far side of the Sun into the evening sky but will be too near the Sun for observation.

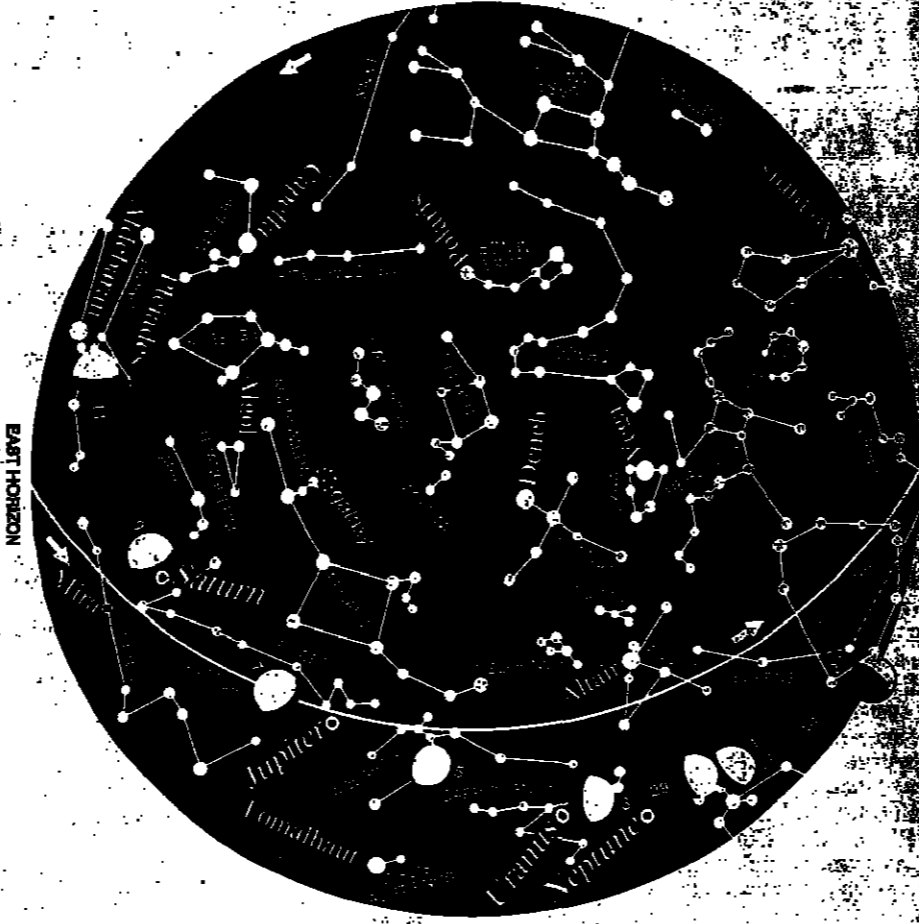
On the 7th it passes about a degree north of the 1st magnitude star Regulus in Leo and on the 11th it will be only a Moon's diameter north of Venus.

Venus is also a morning star but a very much brighter -3.9 magnitude. It can be seen in twilight rising two hours before the Sun on the 1st but only an hour before sunrise by the 30th. Venus passes just to the north of Regulus on the 6th; near Mercury on the 11th. Mars is a morning object passing from Cancer into Leo in mid-month. The 1.7 magnitude red planet rises about 02h throughout the month, its eastward motion against the stars keeping pace with the Sun's eastward motion along the ecliptic. The waning crescent Moon passes two degrees to the south on the 17th.

Jupiter is in Aquarius, the -2.9 magnitude giant planet coming to opposition on the 16th when it will be due south at midnight (01h BST). Moon nearby on the 7th. Saturn is 0.1 magnitude and passes from Cetus back into Pisces in mid-month. By the end of September Saturn is rising only an hour after sunset. Moon nearby on the 9th.

Uranus is in Capricornus and 5.8 magnitude, setting soon after midnight by the 30th. Moon to the north on the 3rd-4th. Neptune is 7.9 magnitude moving from Capricornus into Sagittarius in mid-September. Moon to the north on the 3rd and 30th.

The Moon: full 6d 11h; last quarter 13d 02h; new Moon



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 23h (11 pm) at the beginning, 23h (10 pm) in the middle, and 23h (9 pm) at the end of the month, local mean time. At places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for 20d 17h; 1st quarter 28d 21h. There will be a partial eclipse of the Moon on the 6th visible from the Pacific Ocean region.

The Earth: the autumn equinox is at 23d 06h. Sunset on the 1st is at 18h 50m and on the 30th at 17h 40m while sunrise is at 05h 10m and 06h 00m on the same dates. Astronomical twilight ends at 21h 00m and 19h 30m early and late in the month and begins again at 03h 00m and 04h 05m.

The constellation Perseus is now moving into a more favourable position for observation in the evening sky and will be conveniently placed until next March. The second brightest star in Perseus, Beta Persei, is also called Algol or the Demon Star and has long been known to vary in brightness. It was first studied methodically by John Goodricke in 1782. He established that the star fades from 2.1 to 3.4 magnitude every 69 hours taking about five hours to fade and another five hours to recover normal brightness. It is the brightest example of an eclipsing binary star where two close stars are revolving about each other in an orbit so inclined that one passes in front of the other as seen from the Earth. When the fainter passes in front of the brighter, the light we see is reduced

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.J.S. Banton and Miss T.G. Hooper. The engagement is announced between Mr. Banton, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Banton, of Merrow, Guildford, and Tamsin, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tegla Hooper, of Newdigate, Surrey.

Mr D.A. MacCormack and Dr L. Harding. The engagement is announced between Mr. MacCormack, of Kingston Surrey, and Mrs. L. Harding, of Kingston Surrey, London, and Ursula, daughter of Group Captain and Mrs K.O. Harding, of Long Sutton, Somerset.

Mr D.F.B. Watson and Miss J.L.C. Wilkes. The engagement is announced between Mr. Watson, of Kingston, Somerset, and Miss Wilkes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Wilkes, of Barchin, Wiltshire.

Mr R.L. Winstanley and Miss J.C. Wheeler. The engagement is announced between Mr. Winstanley, of Swainscott, Massachusetts, USA, and Miss Wheeler, of Swainscott, Massachusetts, USA.

Mr P.C. Morgan and Miss A.S. Stevens. The marriage took place quietly on Saturday, August 29, in London, of Peter, son of the late Mr and Mrs Charles Morgan, to Angela, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs William Stevens.

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COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE
August 31: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Prince William of Wales and Prince Henry of Wales and other members of the Royal Family, this morning attended a Private Service in the Imperial Parish Church in memory of the late Diana, Princess of Wales.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
August 31: The Princess Royal, accompanied by Commodore Timothy Laurence RN, this afternoon attended the International Festival of the Sea in Portsmouth Harbour, Hampshire.

Royal engagements

The Duke of York will visit the Alfred McAlpine Stadium in Huddersfield at 10.30; will visit the Kirkcaldy Media Centre Cyber Cafe, 7 Northumberland Street, at 10.55; as Patron, the Fire Services Sports and Athletics Association, will attend the opening ceremony of the Fire Services European Volleyball Championships at the Huddersfield Sports Centre at 11.45; and will open the new Professional Golfers' Association offices and re-open the Brabazon Golf Course at The Belfry, Sutton Coldfield at 2.30.

Anniversaries today

BIRTHS:
Edward Alwyn, actor-manager, founder of Dulwich College, London, 1866; Giacomo Torelli, stage designer, Pano, Italy, 1608; Marguerite Gardiner, Countess of Blessington, novelist, Knockree, Co Tipperary, 1789; Engelbert Humperdinck, composer, Siegburg, Germany, 1854; Carl Auer von Welsbach, chemist and physicist, Vienna, 1858; Sir Roger Casement, Irish nationalist, Kingstown, Co Dublin, 1864; James Corbett (Gentleman Jim), heavyweight boxing champion 1892-97, San Francisco, 1866; Edgar Rice Burroughs, novelist, creator of Tarzan, Chicago, 1875.

DEATHS
Nicholas Breakspear, Pope Adrian IV 1154-59, Anagni, Italy, 1159; Jacques Cartier, navigator, St Malo, 1537; Louis XIV, King of France 1643-1715, Versailles, 1715; Sir Richard Steele, essayist, Carmarthen, 1729; William Clark, explorer, St Louis, 1838; Sir Richard Westmacott, sculptor, London, 1856; Sir James Pennethorne, architect, Worcester Park, Surrey, 1871; Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, composer, Croydon, 1912; W.W. Jacobs, short story writer, London, 1943; Siegfried Sassoon, poet and novelist, Haysbury, Wiltshire, 1967; Francois Mauriac, novelist and poet, Paris, 1970.

Birthdays today

Mr D.A. Baldwin, former chairman of the board, Hewlett-Packard, 62; Sir Kenneth Bradshaw, former Clerk of the House of Commons, 76; Mr Alan Carr, former senior partner, Simmons & Simmons, 62; Professor Sir David Carter, clinical surgeon, 58; Professor Ronald Cooke, Vice-Chancellor, York University, 57; Mr Joe Earle, arts management consultant, 46; Miss Gloria Estefan, singer, 41; Mr Gwynfor Evans, honorary life president, Plaid Cymru, 86; Mrs Margaret Ewing, MP, 63; The Marquess of Exeter, 63; Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Freer, 75; Mr Barry Gibb, singer, 55; Mr Rued Gulliflow, football manager, 36; Mr Al-Jamil Jones, artist, 61; the Earl of Lisburne, 80; Lord O'Neill, 65; Baroness Park of Monmouth, 77; Lord Parkinson, 67; Sir Austin Pearce, former chairman, British Aerospace, 77; Mr Donald Piggott, former director-general, British Red Cross Society, 78; Mr Manuel Piñero, golfer, 46; Mr Milton Shulman, film and theatre critic, 80.

School news

Cranbrook School, Cranbrook, Kent
Term begins on Tuesday, September 8, 1998. The Head Boy is Daniel Bestwood (Rannell), the Head Girl is Elizabeth Pack (Webster Girls), the Senior Boarder is Sarah Clark (Bluberry) and the Student is Rory Padfield (Webster Boys). There are two Information Mornings for parents interested in 1999 entry to Cranbrook on Saturday, September 26 for 13+ entrants, and Saturday, October 10 for 16+ entrants. Term ends with the Carol Service in St Dunstan's on Friday, December 11.

Queen Margaret's School, York
Autumn Term begins on Thursday, September 3 and ends after the Junior and Senior Carol Services on December 9. Tessa Douglas-Hamilton is Head Girl, Amy Wheelton Deputy Head Girl, Alex Robinson is Captain of Lacrosse and Rebecca Finch Captain of Hockey. Dr Wayne Sleep, OBE, will be giving Dance Workshops on September 13. Mr Nicholas Ross of Art History Abroad will deliver the Public Lecture entitled 'Iconography in Baroque Painting and Modern Advertising' on November 12 at 8.00pm. The Chairman of the College of Ripon and St John, York, the Rev Greg Hoyland, will celebrate at the St Margaret's Day Eucharist on November 18. The school production of *The Canterville Ghost* will take place on Nov 25, 26, 27 and 28. The Old Margaretians Association reunion takes place in London on October 10. Past pupils interested in attending should contact Caroline Neal c/o Queen Margaret's School.

Appointments in the Forces

The Army
GENERAL: Sir Sam Cowan, Chief Defence Logistics, 01/09/98; Sir Rupert Smith, D SACEUR, 30/11/98
LIEUTENANT-GENERAL: S C Grant, Quartermaster General, 17/08/98; J F Deverell, D Comd Ops SFOR, 14/09/98
MAJOR-GENERAL: A P N Currie, MA/High Rep Sarajevo, 02/08/98; A W Lyons, DG Log Sp (A), 03/08/98; C R Watt, GOC 1 Arm Div, 17/08/98; J P Kiszely, ACDS (PRO) MOD, 01/09/98; A R D Pringle, COS P HQ, 05/10/98; J K Drenwilkiewicz, SAM RCDS, 09/11/98; P A Chambers, DCOS HQ LAND, 12/11/98
BRIGADIER: A F Birtwistle OBE, COMD HQ 42 (NW) BDE/10 REG AFHQ, 01/09/98
COLONEL: T R Dumas OBE, Defence Attaché Abu Dhabi, 04/09/98; J T Jackson, Comd Army Preparation Team COS, 31/08/98; D G Lyon, Regimental Colonel RHQ RA, 02/09/98
Retirement
BRIGADIER: A W Pollard, Late RAOC, retires 31/08/98.

Shoestring charity fights for Kabul's plundered treasures

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

AMID the chaos of war-torn Afghanistan, a Pakistan-based charity is recovering archaeological treasures from the looted Kabul museum. More than £10,000 has been spent in the bazaars of Peshawar, at the foot of the Khyber Pass in Pakistan's North West Frontier Province, and in Kabul itself: some 1,500 pieces have been saved, dating from the Bronze Age to the historic period. Funding for the Society for the Preservation of Afghanistan's Cultural Heritage (SPACH) has come mainly from foreign governments, especially Greece, Cyprus and The Netherlands, which together contributed more than £44,000 last year. Other EU countries and Norway and Portugal also supported SPACH, but the British Government gave nothing. Unfortunately, according to Professor A.H. Dani, one of Pakistan's leading archaeologists, foreign diplomats are also the main purchasers of looted Afghan antiquities.

Church news

Appointments
The Rev Robin Paterson, Vicar, Leeds All Souls (Ripon); to be Vicar, Middleton St Mary the Virgin (same diocese).
The Rev Alan Pyke, Rector, Creeting St Mary, Creeting St Peter and Earl Stonham w Stonham Parva (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich); to be Curate (to be known as Senior Assistant Priest), Filby, Thirby, Mauby, Stokesby, Runham and Burgh w Billocky (Norwich).
The Rev John Wall, Curate, Brighton St Peter w Chapel Royal (Chichester); to be Team Vicar, Newbury Wash Common with special responsibility for St George (Oxford).
The Rev Dick Woodger, Team Rector, Headley All Saints (Guildford); to be Team Rector, Penrith w Newton Reigny and Plumpton Wall (Carlisle).
Retirements and resignations
The Rev Douglas Bridge-Collins, Vicar, Wharton w Astockton, Hawksworth, Scarrington, Orston and Thornton (Southwell) retired June 30.
The Rev John Hillman, Team Vicar, The Syston Team Ministry (Leicester) retired August 30.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
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DEATHS
HOLMAN - Alva Grace

DEATHS
HONEY - Maurice Charles
MASSEY - Lieutenant Colonel
SISTERHOOD - On August
STRAKER - Michael Ian
VAUGHAN - Joy, peacefully
MARSDEN - On 26th August
PHILBY - Sheila (née
PHIBSTLEY - Peacefully

THANKSGIVING SERVICES
WIFE - A Thanksgiving
IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE
GRIMWOOD - Toby, died
WARRINGTON - Joy, peacefully
WIFE - A Thanksgiving
IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE
GRIMWOOD - Toby, died
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OBITUARIES

THE REV DONALD ENGLISH

The Rev Donald English, CBE, former Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council and President of the Methodist Conference, died of heart trouble on August 28 aged 68. He was born on July 20, 1930.

Donald English was the only minister ever to be President of the Methodist Conference twice. He was also Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council, and came to epitomise the World Methodist Council.

In the course of his work he met world leaders ranging from the Queen to P. W. Botha and F. W. de Klerk, and also led Bible studies in Parliament, but he retained his imaginative ability to step into the worlds of audiences of any age and very varied backgrounds. He broadcast to millions in *Thought for the Day* on Radio 4, and was adept at turning small incidents or aperçus to account. His figures of speech were often striking, as when he said, somewhat bewilderingly: "Our believing has become fragmented — more like a bag of marbles than a bunch of grapes." When preaching he could be very animated, and he was not afraid to laugh or to cry in the pulpit, and in 1991 in Singapore he wept openly while expressing his grief at white racism.

He believed that the struggle for social justice was a crucial part of the mission of the Church, and constantly related his teaching to the conditions he found around him in the everyday world. He contributed a chapter, for example, to a book about the challenge of the Aids crisis in the 1980s, and he led the development of the "Mission Alongside the Poor" programme, taking the Gospel to some of Britain's most deprived areas.

He laid particular emphasis on

the need to convey the historical and scriptural traditions of the Church in contemporary and easily apprehended language. He was, indeed, a great populariser.

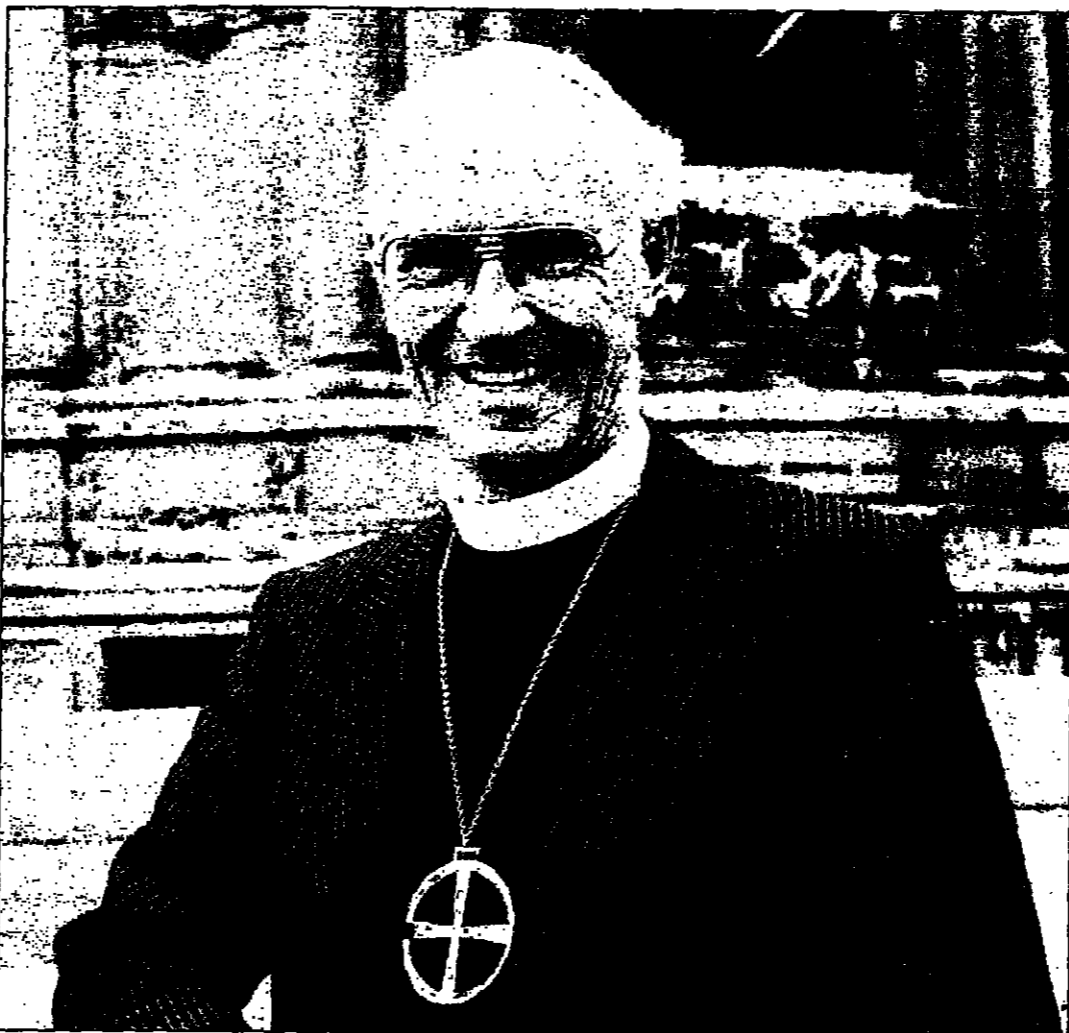
As a preacher he swelled congregations, despite his unusually long sermons, and he was also the author of many books and pamphlets. These included his study of the relation of theology to practical worship, *God in the Gallery* (1975), *Christian Discipleship* (1977), *Windows on the Passion* (1978), *Why Believe in Jesus?* (1986) *Evangelism Now* (1985), *The Meaning of the Warm Heart* (1988) and *Everything in Christ* (1988). One of his international Bible studies was printed in 25 languages.

Donald English was born at Consett, Co Durham, the only son of a colliery electrician, Robert English, and his wife Ena, and was educated at the local grammar school. From there he moved on to the University College of Leicester (now Leicester University), where he read history for the London University BA, and took a diploma in education, thinking that he might become a history teacher.

He had always attended the local High Westwood chapel, and he played soccer for the Boys Brigade. For a time it looked as though he could make a career in soccer. He played for the British Universities team, and then for Leicester City for two years, and was considered for a place at Sunderland.

He did his National Service with the RAF as an education officer before becoming travelling secretary of the Inter-Varsity Fellowship (now the Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship) from 1955 to 1958, responsible for training and evangelism in 11 universities.

Afraid of becoming stale in his dealings with new generations of students, he moved in 1958 to Wesley House in Cambridge, to train for the ministry, and was taught by Michael Skinner and Owen Chadwick. By the time he left, the previously undistinguished Wesley House football team could claim an unbeaten season.



After a period as assistant tutor at Wesley College, Headingly, Leeds, he was ordained in 1962. In the same year he married Bertha Ludlow, whom he had met at the Leicester Christian Union, and who was Lady Warden at the Methodist College in Belfast. Always a missionary in the tradition of the Wesleys, English wanted to preach as widely as possible, and he now went to Nigeria under the aegis of the Methodist Missionary Society, to be tutor at the ecumenical Trinity College in Umuahia in the east of the country. There he told people that the Church must proclaim the Word like a town crier going through the streets.

When he returned to Britain, he was quick to see the passion and enthusiasm in black-led churches, and wished to harness their energy. He urged different faiths to work closely together, and was to serve as chairman of the executive committee of the Nationwide Initiative in Evangelism, of the evangelism committee of the British Council of Churches, and of the Churches Together Co-ordinating Group in Evangelism.

He taught and spoke in places as far apart as Nairobi, Brazil, Israel and South Africa. Wherever he went he made friends, not least because he accepted that the British way of doing things is not necessarily the only way.

In 1966 he began a six-year ministry at Cullercoats in Northumberland, but in 1972 he shifted back to college life, becoming tutor in historical theology at Hartley Victoria College, Manchester, and then, when that closed the following year, moving to Wesley College in Bristol, where he was tutor in practical theology and Methodism.

Among his innovations in Bristol was the week-long study of a particular local congregation in its social context. Students would make contact with schools, social services and the police, as well as the local minister. At the time some of these excursions were considered by his detractors to be more like ego-trips than field-trips, but they were all part of English's dedication to practical evangelism.

In 1976 he made a great impact with the Bible studies he presented to the 13th World Methodist Conference, held in Ireland, and two years

later, at 47, he was elected President of the Methodist Conference, one of the three youngest men ever to have held the post.

He launched the programme "Sharing in God's Mission", galvanising many with the intensity of his vision. He was an expert at delegation, and made others feel that their contributions were worthwhile. He took a special interest in the increasingly popular city-wide ecumenical missions. He was the main speaker at several of these, including "One Voice" in York — where he spoke without notes or a lectern — and "Making Waves" in Plymouth. He also addressed many student audiences at universities.

In 1982 he became leader of the Methodist Home Mission Division, and it was in this capacity that he once had to reply, at a conference, to a critical speech from the floor which accused the Church of "pussyfooting around". He answered the charge firmly, explaining his strategic plans, and then concluded with the words, "Now, Mr President, I'll just pussyfoot back to my seat."

In 1990 he became President of the Conference for an unprecedented second time. He was not without critics for allowing his name to go forward again, but others felt that his wisdom and wide experience were needed at a difficult and potentially divisive time.

From 1991 to 1996 he was chairman of the World Methodist Council, representing 60 million Methodists, which meant even more detractors to be more like ego-trips than field-trips, but they were all part of English's dedication to practical evangelism.

He was appointed CBE in 1996. His wife died of cancer in 1997, but he is survived by their two sons.

GUY YEOMAN

Guy Yeoman, veterinary surgeon and explorer, died on August 3 aged 78. He was born on July 11, 1920.

A VETERINARY student when the Second World War broke out, Guy Yeoman went to East Africa as a "gentleman of leisure" and developed a lifelong passion for the snowy sources of the Nile and the people of the Rwenzori mountain ranges. He became fluent in Swahili while recruiting troops for the war in Burma in 1942 and later returned to the region as a veterinary surgeon working for the Colonial Office. This passion resulted in his book *Africa's Mountains of the Moon* (1989) and in his successful campaign to provide the place and its people with the protection of World Heritage Site status.

On the outbreak of war Yeoman had attempted to join the Army but was at first unable to do so because he was professionally exempted. He persisted, and found himself training troops in East Africa. The sinking of the troopship *Khedive Ismail* while on passage from Mombasa to Ceylon on February 12, 1944, affected him deeply. Among the 1,511 lives lost were almost all the African troops of his own regiment.

The experience left him with a deep sense of debt for the lives of Africans lost during the war. It was a debt he tried to pay throughout the remainder of his life, and the protection of the fragile mountainous area around the sources of the Nile was a lifelong pursuit.

After the war he continued his veterinary training, qualifying from the Royal Veterinary College, London, in 1949. He joined the Colonial Office and was posted to East Africa with his young wife Myrtle. His work on the tick-borne cattle disease East Coast Fever was the basis of the thesis which won him his fellowship of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. His book *The Exotic Ticks of Tanzania* (jointly written with Dr Jane Walker) was published in 1967. His successful disease control schemes are still largely in place in Tanzania.

During his service in the country he made the first of his many Rwenzori expeditions: the collections of fauna and flora he made for the National Museum of Kenya are recorded on a film in the family archives.

When Tanzania gained its independence Yeoman returned to Britain in 1962, continuing his veterinary research, first for Astra Hewlett and later for Beecham Pharmaceuticals where he achieved international recognition for his work in veterinary antibiotics.

But he retained his interest in East Africa, continuing his explorations whenever time and circumstances allowed. Although afflicted by increasing deafness (as well as the death of his eldest son), he



journeyed, often by himself, to the heart of the Rwenzori mountain ranges. He established a close relationship with the Bakonjo people of the mountains, still able to converse with them in Swahili, despite his hearing loss. The Bakonjo made him a *Mzee* (honorary chief) in token of their appreciation of his friendship towards them.

The purpose of his expedition of 1984 was to obtain illustrations for his book *Africa's Mountains of the Moon* and he invited the botanical artist Christabel King to join the party. Her beautiful botanical illustrations feature in the book alongside his superb photographs. An expedition of 1987 nearly came to grief when it was caught up in inter-tribal fighting. But heroic efforts by two Konjo companions enabled Yeoman and his party to extricate themselves with their maps and film.

In 1990 Yeoman led a commission of inquiry into local attitudes towards the proposals for a Rwenzori World Heritage Site. He travelled throughout most of the mountain villages, holding public meetings. He was adamant that the people of the mountains should not have their lives disrupted by any changes which might result in the change of status for the area,

most particularly recreational use of the mountains and the intrusive impact that might have on the local way of life.

When the Rwenzori Mountain Services were established under Bakonjo control, the mountain guides built a climbing hut which they named the Guy Yeoman Hut. It was a gesture that touched him deeply.

Yeoman also concerned himself with the social welfare of the people of the Rwenzori region, suggesting schemes to control the size of families, to be paid for by the Kenyan State, and based on the notion of compensation for months of non-pregnancy. A pilot scheme is expected to be given a trial in the region this winter.

Yeoman passed on his passion for the mountains not only to his wife and children, but also to his grandchildren. At the age of 69 he and his wife climbed the Ibera route of the Rwenzori Mountains. With his son he had climbed on Mount Kenya, as well as on several Alpine peaks, including the Matterhorn. In his last years he was afflicted by almost total deafness, but he continued, right to the end of his life, to walk the hills surrounding his home in Edale, Derbyshire.

He is survived by his wife Myrtle and by a son and a daughter.

Piroska Szanto, Hungarian artist, writer and broadcaster, died in Budapest on August 2 aged 84. She was born on December 7, 1913.

ALTHOUGH her work was little known outside her native Hungary, Piroska Szanto's artistic and literary output made her a grande dame of the cultural life of her country.

The fastidious sometimes frowned upon her work, but as an artist, writer and broadcaster she won for herself a loyal and enthusiastic middle-brow following. With her husband, the poet Istvan Vas, whom she married in 1951, she was at the centre of a warmly hospitable cultural world, whose boundaries were willingly stretched to include interested foreigners.

Piroska Szanto was born in Kisiskunfelegyhaza, 80 miles southeast of Budapest. From her early years set herself to be an artist. She combined her art with left-leaning instincts, and in 1934 joined the Socialist Artists Group. During the Second World War she was active in a leftist underground resistance movement and had, when it was uncovered, to go into hiding on a remote farm. But she was not a communist. Her art was internationalist and to a degree Western in flavour, and after the war she joined the avowedly European school of Hungarian artists.

In the late 1940s this group, like so many other associations of free spirits, attracted the disapproval of the new Stalinist Government of Hungary. In consequence Szanto was permitted no exhibition of her work from 1949 until after the 1956 Hungarian revolution. But throughout this period, as throughout her life, she went on painting.

She pursued a variety of techniques, whose constant theme was a search for ways to extend the boundaries of representational art. Crucifixes, flowers, well-heads, broken gravestones proliferate; so do ghostly peasant women and — late in her career — vaguely erotic impressions of intertwined lovers. It is not great art, but it has an accessible, yet mildly challenging, appeal. Szanto was also a gifted book illustrator. And in 1989 she finally published a book of the drawings she had made of the 1956 revolution in action, drawings which she kept hidden away for more than 30 years and about which she had written, as late as 1984, that she thought they would never see the light of day in public.

In the introduction to that book, as in four books of memoirs she published, Szanto demonstrated a talent with her pen which was perhaps greater than with her brush (she gave her hobbies in the Hungarian *Who's Who* as "animal protection and prose writing"). She had lived through interesting times, and laid her experiences before readers seeking escape from the grey predictability of Communist Party orthodoxy.

She also, late in life, made herself a much-loved radio and television broadcaster.

PIROSKA SZANTO

She had a quirky, irreverent, throaty way with words and a daring, allusion-filled mind. All this won her a popular following which compensated her for the gently patronising disdain with which some of her contemporaries regarded her work.



A study by Piroska Szanto depicting a scene from the Hungarian uprising of 1956, featuring resisting students

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Offering reference: ICF NEWS 2

MIDNIGHT AT WOOLWICH ARSENAL

Nightworkers at Woolwich Arsenal are not without their compensations. Darkness softens the hard, noonday ugliness of the mighty vibrating world of copper, steel and iron. The branches of lonely little trees, standing forlornly in the few patches of green still left (war-time necessities have absorbed most of them) shelve a spectral minuet in the moonlight; and on the bordering Thames shrouded ships come and go in silence that is more lyrical than a song.

Something of this strong magic of the night penetrates the big factories filling the airy vastness with beckoning shadows and covering the busy practical ows and drama and fantasies. Like workers of Arcadia a girl is "comfort-Philoclea of work" by singing, and in her hands to work" by singing, and in this austere environment there-song in the sounds sweet as a flute playing in the wilderness. Even the dark machinery, fashioning deadly, glittering things prettily as a child's plaything, is invested with

ON THIS DAY

September 1, 1916

The employment of teenagers in munitions factories illustrates the drain on the nation's manpower after two years of war on sea and land.

a new significance by this nocturnal enchantment. Suddenly the clock strikes 11 and the great gong calls the workers to the canteens. At the sound matter-of-factness returns. Music and flowers add beauty and grace to the festival of eating in the big canteen. There is no jostling, no confusion, no emulation. They are obviously all "good pals". Some bring their own food, which is heated up at the counter. Others partake of the excellent meal provided at an astonishingly low sum. Respect for the liberty of the workers' leisure hours is manifested in

the big new canteen for 1,000 boys recently opened. Their ages range from 14 to 18. Some, so small that their heads barely reach the top of the counter, are ordering "meat and two vegetables" at an hour when most of their size are tucked snugly in bed. Others are diving into nautical-looking coloured handkerchiefs, wicker baskets and paper parcels in which they have brought their food. Some are smoking cigarettes; some playing cards, some reading newspapers, and some deep in tales of adventure. These boys, when off duty, have comfortable hostels to live in, motherly women to look after them, recreation grounds to play in, and a seaside camp for holidays. Everywhere one is impressed by the animated "live" look of both girl and boy munition workers, an expression exceedingly rare in this country, where even those who are intelligent seldom look it. Miss Lillian Barker, Superintendent of the Women's section, attributes this to hard work.

One can foresee munitions work taking a prominent part in the ordinary school curriculum in years to come...

Green-fingered entrepreneurs are using their horticultural skills to develop thriving operations

Enterprise has roots in potting shed

By HARRIET WARNER

TO MANY people, gardening is a thing to do in retirement and flower arranging is strictly for the WI, but, for 32-year-old Stephen Woodham, flowers and gardens have always been a passion. They have also made him one of the strongest names in the booming industry of landscape architecture, and his contemporary garden designs have won him the reputation of "the rebel" of Chelsea Flower Show.

Over the past ten years, by working on average 120 hours a week, Mr Woodham has built up a client list that includes Shirley Bassey, Nicole Farhi, Ralph Lauren, French Connection, Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare and No 10 Downing Street.

He started Woodhams, a landscape and floristry design company, in 1988 with a Youth Enterprise Scheme grant of £40 a week. His assets were an old Ford Escort and a potting shed in his garden.

The launch coincided with Britain heading into recession. "Looking back it was the worst and best time to start," Mr Woodham says. "Worst because there was the financial responsibility of a new business together with the pressure of a mortgage on a house that had gone into negative equity. But because most people were in the same boat, with negative equity meaning they couldn't sell their houses, it meant they were developing what they were stuck with - their gardens."

So the landscape design side of the business benefited.

Much of his work initially came from contacts he had made while training at the Royal Horticultural Society's Wisley centre. However, his big break came in 1989, when he was walking past the Ralph Lauren boutique in Bond Street. "The store looked wonderful, but it needed bringing alive with flowers," Mr Woodham said. "I asked if they'd like some garlands for Christmas. I quoted and got the job. It was a really exciting and lucky time."

The luck continued, with Anne Boyd, creative director at Ralph Lauren, introducing him to many people in UK fashion and interior design. As word of his flair for innovative designs spread, Mr Woodham was asked to design floral layouts for events such as a G8 summit, the British Antique Dealers' Fair and Society weddings.

Mr Woodham says that winning a gold medal at Chelsea in 1994 meant that demand for his landscaping and floral designs "doubled almost overnight". He now employs 23 people and says: "Woodhams would not be the success that it is without this team - it is incredibly strong and talented." The business operates from offices at his 5,000 sq ft London warehouse.

Mr Woodham is constantly thinking of ways to develop the business, and is opening a shop at No 1 Aldwych, a London hotel known for its trendy clientele. He said: "It's lovely at the moment - just vases and Perspex containers and matt and glazed porcelain, but we are also planning a range of garden tools and furniture." His book, *Flower Power*, looking at the use of colour and out-of-fashion flowers, is to be published by Quadrille this month.

He still works seven-day weeks. His days can start at 3am, buying at Covent Garden flower market, and go on until late evening. He says: "It doesn't feel like work - I love it; it's what I always wanted to do. My advice to anyone thinking of starting a business is research it, and go out there and do it."



Tim and Charlotte Hill-Baldwin combine garden design with marketing of CD-Roms for gardening enthusiasts in the UK and abroad

Pair sell software for gardeners

By DAVID ASKHAM

TIM and Charlotte Hill-Baldwin are garden designers specialising in restoring large period gardens and they have an impressive portfolio of achievement, mainly in Wiltshire. A key feature of their work is striving for excellence in design and execution. For example, subcontractors are told to remove all debris; not even a cigarette end can be discarded in a client's garden.

As their success grew, inquiries came from wider afield and gave the pair an interesting dilemma. Should they expand their business by recruiting teams to help them? The recession in the early 1990s prompted a cautious approach and expansion was deferred partly be-

cause, in 1995, the pair found a promising new business opportunity that would capitalise on their garden design expertise.

CD-Roms were beginning to appear on the market, and several focused on do-it-yourself. They presented easily accessible gardening information split evenly between landscape design programmes and pictorial plant encyclopaedias. However, the Hill-Baldwins found that the CD-Roms were competing with a multitude of other software. Serious gardeners were unlikely to take the trouble to sort out the most worthwhile.

The obvious route was to sell garden-themed CD-Roms in garden centres, a market that the Hill-Baldwins knew very well. So How-

it and Mowit, the original company set up in 1988 for professional garden maintenance and design, added a sister company in 1995 for the sole purpose of marketing garden-themed CD-Roms to leading garden centres throughout the United Kingdom.

The company is based near Devizes, and its initial clients were located in Wiltshire. The owner of the highly successful Whitehall garden centre, near Chippenham, was very enthusiastic and was the first to promote the product on a specially designed merchandiser.

Because the Hill-Baldwins were clearly moving into a new business area, they sought help from their bank manager, who, in turn, suggested that they approach Busi-

ness Link West Wiltshire in Trowbridge. Their consultant offered general advice on marketing, expansion and the preparation of business plans and forecasting.

After sifting through the wealth of information given, the Hill-Baldwins made the most of Business Link's expert help, particularly in interpreting the specialised jargon and in negotiating bureaucratic procedures that can easily deter small businesses from tackling export markets.

As a result of help from Business Link, agencies have been set up in South Africa and North America, and there are good prospects of others in Japan and Sweden.

Howit and Mowit: 01380 848118

Horwath Franchising, part of the Horwath business services group, is holding seminars in London for franchisors and their support staff. The first, "How to market your franchise", is on September 8. Details: Brian Duckett, 0171-917 9824.

The problems of keeping businesses afloat will be discussed at a breakfast meeting called by the European Federation of Black Women Business Owners at the Midland Bank's Thames Exchange branch in the City of London on September 22. The meeting is part of the federation's programme of business breakfasts sponsored by Midland. The following meeting, on November 3, will discuss preparations for the euro. Inquiries: 0171-978 9488.

Stewart Clark, of the family business department of the accountancy firm BDO Stoy Hayward in Glasgow, which helped to form an advice group on succession, has written *Family Businesses: Planning the Handover* (W. Green and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland, £19.99). Mr Clark says only 30 per cent of such companies reach the next generation, mainly because of sibling rivalry and failure to confront succession issues. Inquiries: 0141-248 3761.

BT has opened its first Business-connections Customer Centre in Birmingham, showing small businesses how technology can help them to be more effective. More similar centres are planned. Inquiries: 0800 7838808.

Advent, a venture capital company, has set up a £100 million fund to invest in emerging businesses, particularly in healthcare and IT. Details: 0171-630 9811.

A NatWest factsheet advises small businesses what to do in the event of an economic slowdown. It covers credit and stock control.



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NEWS

Rebuff for Yeltsin deepens crisis

Russia plunged deeper into crisis when its Parliament overwhelmingly rejected President Yeltsin's nomination of Viktor Chernomyrdin as Prime Minister...

After speakers across the political spectrum had heatedly attacked Chernomyrdin's record, the Duma voted against nominating him to head a new government...

Partisans for a lost Princess

Exactly 365 days had passed since they had heard the news, but the worshippers had not weakened one iota in their passion for their idol...

Island 'invasion'

A tiny British-owned island in the Channel has been 'invaded' by an eccentric French novelist in the name of King Orléans-Antoine I of Patagonia...

IRA statement

An IRA statement condemning the Omagh bomb, demanding the Real IRA's disbandment and admitting executions was dismissed by Unionists...

Prisons clash

The feud between the Prison Service and the Chief Inspector of Prisons erupted into the open when it denied as 'empty words' his claim that 20 drug barons operate in big prisons...

Nazi secrets

A secret archive of Nazi documents, said to have been seized by Red Army commandos in Berlin in the last days of the Second World War...

Noye work stops

Builders on Kenneth Noye £350,000 whitewashed hilltop villa in Spain claim he owes them £12,500. They dismantled their scaffolding as soon as they heard of his arrest...

Children massacred

Brains and babies' booties lie on the ground after Serb guns pounded a forest refuge. Albanian women and children are being targeted by Belgrade's heavily armed forces...

Nanny's plea

Louise Woodward, the nanny tried for murder live on US TV, said cameras had turned her case into a soap opera and should be banned from court...

Rape case officers

Six army officers who were criticised by a judge after being acquitted of gang rape are still with the Service almost a year after the trial...

MP's breath test

A Labour MP spoke of his horror at failing a breath test. Jamie Carrn, who had been stopped for speeding, planned a beer at home the night before...

Swimmers' drugs

A swimming coach in former East Germany has been found guilty of administering performance-enhancing drugs to young female athletes...

Schizophrenia clue

Scientists say their discovery of a strong genetic link to schizophrenia, a mental disease known to run in families, is 'exceedingly important'...

Race vote fears

Four former Australian Prime Ministers have signed an open letter urging voters not to support racist candidates in next month's general election...

The show that came off must go on

In a move reminiscent of The Producers, the Mel Brooks film about a bad-taste show on Hitler that was intended to fail, the Barbican in London is reviving a musical that flopped so abysmally that it has not been fully revived for 70 years...



Golden day: revellers in the Notting Hill Carnival procession yesterday

BUSINESS

Petrol merger: Shell is close to agreeing a merger of its European refining and marketing operations with those of Texaco...

SPORT

Cricket: Muttiah Muralitharan, the Sri Lanka off-spinner, produced the fifth best Test match with those of Texaco in reaction to the dramatic deterioration in the profits of Europe's major refiners...

ARTS

Painting with thread: An exhibition at London's Serpentine Gallery will change the public perception of embroidery, thanks to 17 disparate artists in thread...

FEATURES

Body and mind: 'On the way to her apartment, Miller made no attempt to sleep with her, although he desired her very much. Marilyn used to being pawed by men, interpreted his shyness as a sign of respect...

FOOTBALL

Football: Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, said that Michael Owen was currently the top striker in the country after his hat-trick against Newcastle at the weekend...

TENNIS

Tennis: Tim Henman, seeded No 13, was championing at the bit after an hour of unyielding practice with Andre Agassi...

MOTORING

Motor racing: Damon Hill, winner of the Belgian Grand Prix at Spa-Francorchamps, said he had driven a better than ever...

BEER

Beer fight: A group of landlords is preparing to sue the Government for £1.6 billion because they claim they have been forced to use a home-produced beer as their guest ale rather than a cheaper import from the Continent...

EDUCATION

Early warnings: The findings of a national survey on the survival rate of premature babies are to be presented for National Pregnancy Week...

LAW

Split definitive: The new Family Law Panel will help divorcing couples to find the right lawyers...



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

INTERFACE: Game boys: the Oxford graduates who revolutionised computer games

HOMES: The loopholes in new regulations on furniture in rented properties

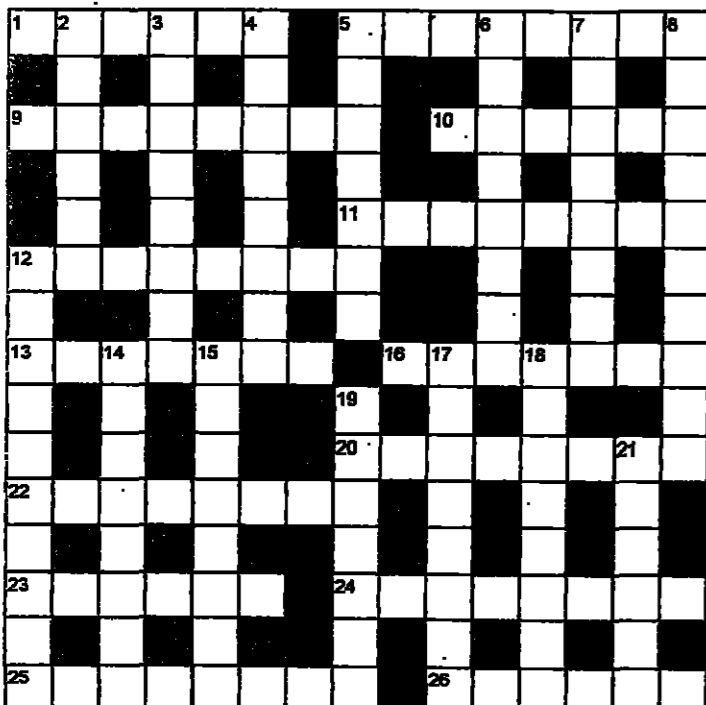
THE PAPERS

There's gold in the Diana Memorial Hills, and everyone seems intent on mining some. Is the impulse to maximise our responses to the deaths of icons a compensation for our tendency to minimise our responses to the deaths that really matter...

LETTERS

Working-time regulations; Trafalgar Square traffic; Gibraltar as World Heritage Site; Prozac for students; the content of the Dome's Spirit Zone; martens and squirrels...

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,885



- ACROSS: 1 Vitality of Frenchman priest converted (6). 5 Retire amid genuine satisfaction (8). 9 It is conferred due to supreme being first (8). 10 Group of horses making way to enclosure (6). 11 Negotiates with opponents round table, making petitions (8). 12 Birds circling lake could be ducks or quails (8). 13 Give new order to soldiers at military HQ on Continent (7). 16 Tough type able to resist shelling? (4,3). 20 Took a breather by popular high point before start of descent (8). 22 Old-fashioned instruments for the blues (8).

Solution to Puzzle No 20884. TIGER/EYE FASCIA... ELEVEN EXISTENT

AA INFORMATION

Latest Road and Weather conditions. AA members can report from 0330 416 399. AA Car reports by fax: 0330 416 399

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Table showing hours of darkness for various locations in the UK, including London, Manchester, and Cardiff.

NEWSPAPERS RECYCLING

Recycled paper made up 41.4% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1997

FORECAST

General: overnight rain will soon clear from Northern Ireland, Wales and SW England, with brighter skies later spreading into central southern England...

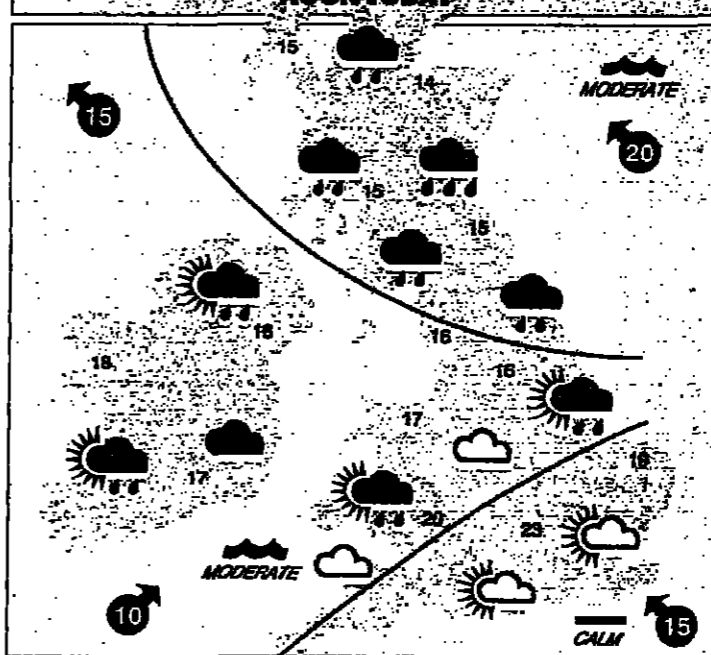
AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

Table showing weather conditions around Britain yesterday, including temperature, wind, and cloud cover for various cities.

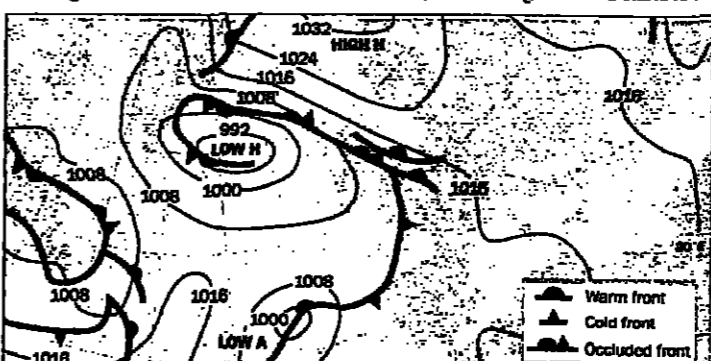
ABROAD

Table showing weather conditions in various international locations, including Madrid, Moscow, and Tokyo.

MOON TODAY



Changes to chart from noon: High H stays off Norwegian coast with pressure unchanged; Low A runs towards N France and Rils; low H swings NW and starts to fill

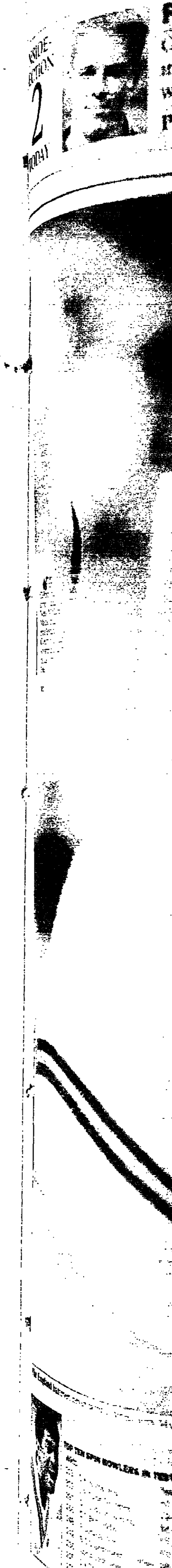


HIGH TIDES

Table showing high tide times for various locations in the UK, including Aberdeen, London, and Cardiff.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Jersey, 24C (75F); lowest day max: Far ice, Shetland, 13C (55F); highest rainfall: Sennybridge, Powys, 0.15in; highest sunshine: Stornoway, Hudders, and Fozzies, 10.2h



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TODAY



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Owen revelling in the spotlight with England

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LAW

New hope for those going through divorce

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BUSINESS

Animal activists try to scupper Huntingdon rescue

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TELEVISION AND RADIO PAGES 42-43

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1 1998



The England batsmen never came to terms with Muralitharan's unique action as they slumped at the Oval yesterday. Photograph: Rebecca Naden

England sent spinning to humiliation

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THE OVAL (final day of five): Sri Lanka beat England by ten wickets

ALL too soon, the froth and fizz of England's cricketing summer went flat. Three weeks after the dizzy joys of Headingley, they were overwhelmed yesterday by Muralitharan, a phenomenon to whom cricket's bowling records are now open house.

Muralitharan, the confectioner's son from Kandy, completed match figures of 16 for 220, the fifth-best in Test cricket, as England's variable resistance was ended with half-an-hour in hand. Sri Lanka's first victory in England scorned the decision to offer them a solitary Test and emphasised that world cricket has a new, entrancing star.

The uniquely wristy off-spinner took nine for 65 in the second innings and only a run-out deprived him of the chance to join Jim Laker as the one man with all ten. Bewitched, bothered and bewildered, England tottered into Muralitharan's web with alarming compliance until complete indignity was averted by a stubborn stand of 53 between the ninth-wicket pair of Mark Ramprakash and Darren Gough.

Briefly, deceptively, England hinted at another improbable escape to match the heroes of Old Trafford in July — but everywhere they twisted and turned, Muralitharan was there, switching ends, changing angles, waiting in ambush.

He bowled 37 overs in the day, making 114 in the match. His stamina was as impressive as his immense skill and finally, with a whooping dance of delight that nobody could begrudge him, he snared the defiant stragglers. It left a requirement of 36 in 14 overs and Sri Lanka, true to their instincts, made them in five.

As with many one-off Tests, this game had the atmosphere of an end-of-term party, but England will not now enjoy their holidays as much as they had anticipated. "It's taken a bit of gloss off the summer," Alec Stewart, the captain, said. He might have added that it has raised serious concern about the winter, too.

England batted as poorly against Muralitharan as ever they have done against the similarly freakish gifts of Shane Warne. While they may grumble that the Oval produced the very type of dry, turning pitch that Muralitharan would have ordered, they can expect nothing very different if Warne is fit to oppose them in Australia.

However, this was no more an occasion on which to glibly condemn England's cricket than it was to question Muralitharan's action, as David Lloyd has so unwisely done. Lloyd's words may have official repercussions, but they will be nothing compared to the impact upon the wider game of this peerless display of spin bowling.

Stewart may have had his differences with the Sri Lankans, but he was unflinching in his praise of Muralitharan. "He's very difficult to play against, because he spins it so

much and you can never get on top of him," he said. "Saglain Mushtaq, who plays with me for Surrey, is a tremendous off-spin bowler, but this fellow is in a different league."

For Arjuna Ranatunga, the admirably impressive Sri Lanka captain, victory was sweet vindication for the tactic of bowling first. It was the first time that he has won after inserting the opposition, at the twelfth time of trying, but Ranatunga showed unblinking conviction afterwards when he said the game had

fourth in any Test away from home — was more than an idle fancy. When John Crawley was out immediately before lunch, to a culpably casual drive, the outcome could all too easily be envisaged.

Within half-an-hour of the resumption, all hope of a home reprieve appeared gone. Ben Hollis was out first ball, though he departed shaking his head forlornly over the leg-before decision, and Muralitharan swept aside Cork and Salisbury with minimal fuss.

The wicket of Cork was Muralitharan's 200th in Tests and his remarkable improvement can be gauged from the fact that his first hundred occupied 27 games and his second only 15. He had now taken four for six, either side of lunch. One more wicket would take him above Allan Donald as the most prolific bowler in Test cricket this year, two more would give him the best figures in any Test at the Oval, but, at last, England made him wait.

Ranatunga, a captain who never lets a pattern grow stale, juggled his bowlers relentlessly, as much to keep the batsmen guessing about where Muralitharan would next emerge as in hope that anyone else might take a wicket. For more than two hours, though, he was denied until, with the last hour looming, Ramprakash erred at last.

Muralitharan had him well caught at short-leg and then, in his next over, bowled the valiant Gough behind his legs as he aimed to sweep. England had batted five hours of the day for 127 runs, too few to put the game out of reach. Jayasuriya claimed the spoils hungrily, but the glory belonged elsewhere.

'They turned their victory into a proper trouncing'

Michael Henderson, page 29

gone entirely to plan. "Muralitharan is our key man and we wanted to make sure he had a break at some stage." By inference, if England had batted second, Ranatunga would have expected them to follow on.

Who is to argue now? Certainly not Stewart, no matter that he was the one batsman yesterday to escape the clutches of Muralitharan, albeit through a run-out executed quite brilliantly by a direct hit thrown by Chandana, the substitute. Coming after an hour's play, with James already gone to a bat-pad catch and England still 53 runs adrift, Stewart's departure was the moment in which Sri Lanka sensed that their third successive victory — and only their

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TOP TEN SPIN BOWLERS IN TEST CRICKET

Wickets	Tests	Ave
313	S K Warne (Aus)	24.77
309	L R Gibbs (W Indies)	29.09
297	D L Underwood (Eng)	25.83
266	B S Bedi (India)	28.71
248	R Bernard (Aus)	27.03
242	B S Chandrasekhar (India)	29.74
236	Abdul Qadir (Pak)	32.80
218	C V Grimmett (Australia)	24.21
203	M Muralitharan (Sri Lanka)	28.91
197	A Kumble (India)	28.43

BEST BOWLING IN A TEST MATCH

Wickets	Runs	Match	Year
17-159	S F Barnes	Eng v S Africa	Johannesburg 1913-14
16-136	N D Hirwani	India v W Indies	Madras 1987-88
16-137	R A L Mashe	Aus v Eng	Lord's 1972
16-220	M Muralitharan	Sri Lanka v Eng	The Oval 1998
15-28	J Briggs	Eng v S Africa	Cape Town 1888-89
15-45	G A Lohmann	Eng v S Africa	Port Elizabeth 1895-96
15-99	C Bythe	Eng v S Africa	Headingley 1907
15-104	H Verity	Eng v Aus	Lord's 1934
15-123	R J Hadlee	N Zealand v Aus	Brisbane 1985-86

BEST BOWLING IN A TEST INNINGS

Wickets	Runs	Match	Year
10-53	J C Laker	Eng v Aus	Old Trafford 1956
9-26	G A Lohmann	Eng v S Africa	Johannesburg 1895-96
9-37	J C Laker	Eng v Aus	Old Trafford 1956
9-52	R J Hadlee	N Zealand v Aus	Brisbane 1985-86
9-56	Abdul Qadir	Pak v Eng	Lahore 1987-88
9-57	D E Malcolm	Eng v S Africa	The Oval 1994
9-65	M Muralitharan	Sri Lanka v Eng	The Oval 1998
9-69	J M Patel	India v Aus	Kanpur 1953-60
9-83	Kapil Dev	India v W Indies	Ahmedabad 1983-84
9-86	Sarfraz Nawaz	Pak v Aus	Melbourne 1978-79

FOOTBALL

McGhee's wings clipped by Angell

Wolverhampton W 2
Stockport County 2

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

AT ABOUT 3.30pm at Molineux yesterday, everything was going swimmingly for those of an old gold persuasion. Wolverhampton Wanderers led 1-0 against Stockport County and began preparing to resume their position at the top of the Nationwide League first division, while West Bromwich Albion, their Black Country rivals, were losing 3-0 away at Grimsby Town.

It got better. Wolves extended their lead and West Bromwich went 4-0 behind; the joy among the home supporters hit euphoric levels. "There's only one Alan Buckley," they chanted, suddenly appreciative of the sterling efforts of the Grimsby Town manager.

At about 3.45pm, it all turned pear-shaped. Brett Angell took flight and headed in his first goal of the season — the first, too, that Wolves had conceded in the League — and the half-time team talk of Mark McGhee, the Wolves manager, took on a more anxious slant.

Eight minutes into the second half, Angell again pounced, lashing in Gannon's deflected cross. From a position of strength, albeit unconvincing in the manner that it had been achieved, Wolves bade farewell to their 100 per cent first-division record. The crowd, apart from the small contingent from Stockport, fled away in disbelief.

"You shouldn't lose a game when you're 2-0 ahead and, thankfully, we didn't," McGhee said. "I'm disappointed but equally glad to have got one point. We're not arrogant enough to think we could go the whole season

without dropping a point or conceding a goal. It had to happen some time."

Arrogance is perhaps too strong but the Wolves players should take a long look in the mirror this morning. Unbeaten sequences can delude as quickly as losing runs can shatter confidence. After Richards had driven them in front in the sixth minute, thumping in the rebound after Nash had tipped Froggatt's chip on to the crossbar, they ambled around as if they would win with ease.

Confirmation of that sentiment appeared to arrive in the 37th minute, when Fernando, 33, the former Spain and Valencia midfielder player, unleashed a fierce, left-footed volley from 25 yards that sped past Nash. He may be balding, and short of pace, but his finishing was sublime.

"We had too much respect for them early on," Gary Megson, the Stockport manager, said. "We were overawed, and it showed, but once we got at them, we became a different team. The problem we face is believing that we're good enough for this division."

Wolves could have got out of jail. Nash had to save smartly from Keane and also performed heroics to keep out Richards's long-range effort and Connolly's follow-up. If Stockport had an inferiority complex, it did not show. Wolves's superiority complex did and they must rid themselves of it, quickly. Still, at least Grimsby beat West Bromwich 5-1. Perhaps it was not such a bad afternoon, after all.

The man put his words to the crux of the matter. After a quite dire first half, lacking ambition and flair, Birmingham had taken the lead after 56 minutes. They deserved it because they had extra pace on the flanks and they had, in Chris Marsden, the most creative left-footed player. They also had composure, which Bradford, despite spending £3.5 million this summer, lacked.

The Birmingham goal emanated from the powerful but erratic Adebola. He held the ball, turned his back and Grainger, the left back, lofted it into the goalmouth. There it took a deflection, looped deceptively into the air and, while



Moore, of Bradford, shields the ball from Adebola, of Birmingham, during the fixture at Valley Parade yesterday

Fortunes turn at the corners

THE Midlands revival in the first division of the Nationwide League was blown off course in a keen Yorkshire wind that brought Bradford City's first victory of the season, and Birmingham City's first defeat.

Trevor Francis, a manager brushed with rare honesty, offered no excuse. "Bradford City," he said, "have two good headers in their team. Lee Mills and Darren Moore. We left them totally unmarked, unchallenged at straight-forward, driven corners. My players shirked their responsibility, and to lose a match I otherwise couldn't see us losing is disappointing to say the least."

The Birmingham goal emanated from the powerful but erratic Adebola. He held the ball, turned his back and Grainger, the left back, lofted it into the goalmouth. There it took a deflection, looped deceptively into the air and, while

Rob Hughes sees Bradford convert Birmingham's defensive lapses into a 2-1 victory at Valley Parade

Dreyer stood immobile. Ndlovu reacted sweetly, watching the ball impeccably and stroking home his volley from 11 yards.

Ndlovu had preferred Valley Parade to Harare, where he had been expected to play for Zimbabwe this weekend until he suddenly changed his mind and flew back to the Brummies.

Alas, poor Bradford. Geoffrey Richmond, their chairman, had said a few days ago that he hoped someone would "protect me from my own insanity". Someone needed to impose a salary cap on teams outside the FA Carling Premiership, or else even rejuvenated clubs such as Bradford would spend themselves into oblivion.

the right and then the left and, as Francis observed, Mills rose without a challenge to head the equaliser and, later, Moore, with even more power and aerial freedom, won the game.

"The really annoying thing," Francis said, "was that we spoke about these two players in training the night before. We spoke again about it at lunchtime... and then we lost through two corners we couldn't head clear, as simple as that."

Yet who can deny a soft spot for Bradford City? Here, in their rebuilt stadium and in front of 13,910 spectators, we witnessed again the strength of English football. It is remarkable that Bradford City, after their shocking fire of more than a decade ago, are with us at all, and remarkable testimony to the tribal following for the game, the intense passion that will not let a local club die, that Bradford are spending as they are.

Nevertheless, in the long haul this season, it is Birmingham who look better equipped to challenge for promotion.

BRADFORD CITY (4-2-2) P. Bennett — G. Rowntree, G. Aldred, M. Johnson, D. Parslow, D. M. Granger — J. McCull, G. Whalley, P. Scoggin — L. Mills, F. Rankin (sub: G. Grant, 68)

Hendrie leads by example

Barnsley 1
Oxford United 0

BY IVO TENNANT

IT WAS not the greatest of performances and nor was the winning goal of particular merit, but no matter. Barnsley gained their first League victory since returning to a division in which, according to Kevin Richardson, their captain, players have more time on the ball and the visiting opposition are inclined to settle for a draw.

Such are Barnsley's concerns back in the Nationwide League first division. Fittingly, a goal from John Hendrie, the player-manager, won the match three minutes before half-time. This was the result of a mix-up between Whitehead, the Oxford United goalkeeper — who, given that he shouted for the ball, accepted

responsibility — and Gilchrist, the central defender, who dallied too long to allow him to collect it.

Hendrie merely had to control the ball and place it into an empty goal. "One mistake cost us," Malcolm Shotton, the Oxford manager said. "We were the better team in the second half, but we are not scoring goals and the only way round that is to sign a forward — in our case it will have to be on loan."

To an extent, the match was spoiled by eight bookings. There were no especially reckless challenges, but neither team came up with football of any purpose. If players really do have more time on the ball in this division, that was far from obvious here.

There were, though, a number of chances of which Oxford managed just one or two. Powell put a shot just wide from a free kick, but otherwise they were engrossed with

looking to prevent Barnsley from scoring. Whitehead, even though he was at fault over the goal, brought off notable saves from a drive by Barnard and, in the last minute, a shot from Fjortoft.

Hendrie, who did not pick himself against Birmingham City, opted to play so as to keep the rest of his squad on their toes. "I think I am just as valuable as anybody else. I would be a mug not to include myself and I am more in control when out on the pitch. Managing here is proving as hard as I thought it would be, but I have good people alongside me."

BARNLSLEY (4-2-2) D. Watson — N. Egan, M. Appleby, A. Moses, C. Morgan — M. Bullock (sub: S. McCook, 81min), K. Richardson (sub: D. Llanos, 75), D. Shotton, P. D. Barnett — A. Ward, J. Hendrie (sub: J. A. Fjortoft, 67)

Stewart adds to Ward's woes

Bristol City 1
Huddersfield Town 2

BY MEL WEBB

JOHN WARD, the Bristol City manager, continues to fret over his team's tendency to haemorrhage goals and, if this game is a typical example, he is right to have misgivings. City have now played five games on their return to the Nationwide League first division, and are still waiting for their first victory.

This defeat took the goals against tally to 13 in five League and cup games so far this season. It is not an emergency just yet, as City continue to find their feet, but if it goes on much longer it will be. Huddersfield Town, on the other hand, left Ashton Gate warmed by the memory of their first away

victory of the season. The happiest of the lot was Marcus Stewart, who scored the winning goal. He had stood on the terraces at Ashton Gate when he was a boy, before committing the ultimate treachery by going on to play for Bristol Rovers.

City made a decent enough start. Twelve minutes had elapsed when the lively Goodridge gathered the ball as it came in low from the left, stepped inside, edged Edwards, the Huddersfield left back, and fired a low left-foot shot past Vaesen.

Far from settling them down, the goal only served to wind City into over-excitement. Too often they pulled themselves out of shape in defence and attack, while Huddersfield, always patient, stayed in control of their game-plan.

With half-time came the feeling that the visitors were only a whisker away from an equalising goal and seven minutes after the interval they

scored it. Paradoxically, it was a goal born of a moment of inspiration rather than careful planning. Horne controlling the ball 25 yards out before thumping a powerful shot unceremoniously past Welch.

City were still in with a viable chance at that point, but Huddersfield's second goal, four minutes later, was the signal for the home side to lose their last scrap of composure. Johnson and Allison instigated the move and when the ball arrived at the feet of Stewart on the edge of the six-yard box, he stepped inside Bell's vain challenge and rolled the ball past Welch into the net off the inside of the far post.

BRISTOL CITY (4-2-2) G. Welch — A. Lucas, J. Watts, L. Carey, M. Bell — G. Gooding, M. Heslop, E. Edwards (sub: J. Doherty, 75min), S. Timson — S. Anderson (sub: A. Mopp, 64), A. Murray, H. Goodridge (sub: J. Vasson, 55), J. Johnson, A. Morrison, S. Collins, R. Edwards — M. Brown (sub: L. Richardson, 83), B. Horne, G. Johnson, B. Threlby — M. Stewart, W. Allison (sub: M. Stewart, W. Allison)

Ipswich prosper thanks to Dyer

Port Vale 0
Ipswich Town 3

BY RICHARD HOBSON

FOR a side without a League goal in 575 minutes, Vale Park bore the restorative qualities of a health spa yesterday. It is not without reason that Port Vale find themselves bottom of Nationwide League first division and Ipswich Town, though hardly hitting the form that carried them into the play-offs last season, had few difficulties securing a first win of the campaign.

On this evidence the gap between the sides is only likely to increase as the weeks pass. Ipswich, conducted by the teenager Dyer, will expect to climb into the leading positions in due course. For Vale, however, the outlook looks grim. John Kudge, the manager, was perhaps underestimating the problem when he suggested that his side needs three new players.

All of the goals stemmed from crosses delivered from the right flank and, in each case, the scorer was permitted a free header. While the introduction of Corden, a second winger, gave Vale extra thrust after the interval it did not cause Wright, in the Ipswich goal, to become any busier.

Ainsworth squandered the best opportunity to fall to the home side in the 72nd minute when he stabbed well wide after being put through by Naylor. After Holland met Dyer's centre to score Ipswich's third, the Vale supporters responded by chanting "What a load of rubbish".

Dyer, the England B international, had also played a role in the first two goals. After 22 minutes Scowcroft headed in the first, then 12 minutes into the second half, Dyer tapped a short corner for Pettit, giving in a cross that Johnson converted emphatically.

PORT VALE (4-2-3) P. Mackenzie — M. Smith (sub: M. Pettit, 72min), D. Barnett, S. Galloway (sub: J. Corden, 46) — S. Scowcroft (sub: M. Corden, 46), J. Carragher, J. Bagg, S. Taylor, A. Taylor — G. Ainsworth, M. Veniz, R. Wright — M. Naylor, M. Monaghan, M. Veniz, J. Carragher (sub: M. Veniz, 78), D. Johnson, J. Smith, M. Hobson, B. Hogg (sub: M. Hobson, B. Hogg)

Warnock's men advance in style

Bury 3
Swindon Town 0

BY STEPHEN WOOD

BURY seem to be enjoying their self-proclaimed status as Greater Manchester's second team. Without relinquishing their record as the only division one team yet to concede a goal this season, they learnt how to attack in style yesterday and, in doing so, confirmed their position near the top of the Nationwide League.

Gigg Lane, Bury's unfashionable home, has witnessed plenty of turgid affairs in recent years and, indeed, their supporters joke how just one shot per game has enabled them to start this term so well. Against Swindon, however, those fans were rewarded for their black humour with a thoroughly entertaining affair.

Neil Warnock, the manager, was also vindicated for his positive formation, with the three home strikers all causing Swindon problems and two of them, Rob Mathews and Andy Preece, adding to Dean Barrick's opening goal.

their part in an end-to-end encounter and were left to regret a host of missed chances in the first half.

Mark Walters, 34, showed his enduring skill and, after three shots of his own, then created three wonderful opportunities for Onuora. The third, which Onuora headed against the bar for Corden's last stand.

After the break, they collapsed as two goals in four minutes just after the hour mark put the contest out of their reach. Barrick finished off a quick break with a stunning first time shot into the top corner and Mathews rounded off a goalmouth scramble with his first goal of the season.

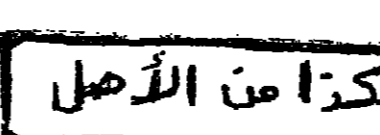
Preece scored the third with a low shot from 20 yards, prompting more calls from the Swindon supporters for the resignation of Steve McMahon, their manager.

"I have heard the fans' unrest, but I will carry on working hard and try to set an example to the rest of the club," McMahon said.

BURY (4-3-3) D. Hoyle — C. Swales, C. Lucas, S. Robinson — A. Woodard, L. Johnson, N. Davies, D. Barrick — R. Mathews (sub: H. Johnson, 78min), D. Barrick (sub: H. Johnson, 78min), D. Barrick (sub: H. Johnson, 78min)

Table with multiple columns: Nationwide League, Second division, Third division, Pools Forecast, and various league tables. Includes team names, scores, and player statistics.

Scotland turn to inform McCoist... Noades prove he can manage... Various vertical text on the right edge of the page.



MOTOR RACING

Jordan's efforts come good for resurgent Hill

By KEVIN EASON

HANGING from a motorway bridge above the lines of cars queuing to leave the rain-drenched circuit at Spa-Francorchamps was a white banner with the simple words: "Demon Hill". If the message was meant to convey a description of the character of Damon Hill, it was wide of the mark. Hill's victory in the Belgian Grand Prix was a performance of consummate control in a race that was marred by some unpleasant scenes. In fact, the only demon to have haunted the former world champion in the two years since he last won a grand prix has been self-doubt.

He has carried the label that he only won his world championship in 1996 because he was in the superior Williams car like a man burdened. As if his torrid year at Arrows — after he was unceremoniously dumped by Williams — was not enough, he was beginning to believe that moving to Jordan was an equally large mistake.

By the middle of this season, after a series of deeply unimpressive performances, Hill was talking of moving on yet

again: even of retiring at the age of 38. Yesterday, he was talking of next season and more races to be won, to add to his career tally of 22 victories, such was the fillip from his stunning victory on Sunday.

"It means a lot because I didn't win in a Williams," he said. "I have always been aware that all my victories came with Williams and, as a driver, I have wanted to prove that I have the ability and the desire to win grands prix."

"After joining Williams, I have led a grand prix in every year and in every car I have raced in, but this is the topping, this is what I have waited for and what I joined Jordan for."

"That is the happiest I have been for a long time in Formula One. We were down in the dumps in this team and to get back to where we are now is one of the most extraordinary things that has happened to a team in a season. The car was not good at the start of the year and to say we stood a chance of winning a race then was out of the question; but the team has worked so hard, it has been quite amazing."

If Hill was happy, Eddie Jordan, his team owner, was ecstatic. For eight seasons and 126 races, he had been so close to victory; it came at the 127th time of asking.

Hill was the big investment for Jordan to make the final step to the top of the podium. Yet the quixotic Irishman was soon wondering whether he was wasting his £4.5 million on Hill as car and driver failed to live up to expectations early in the season. The nadir came at Monaco, a race that Jordan described as "the worst in the team's history", but that was the spur for radical action.

Gary Anderson, Jordan's technical director, was sent to the purdah of the team's Silverstone headquarters to work on the car, while Jordan hired Mike Gascoyne, one of Formula One's most innovative designers, from Tyrrell.

More than 80 technical changes have been made to the Jordans, while Goodyear has improved tyre performance and Mugen-Honda has developed six successive generations of engines to give Hill the power that he demanded.

"Things have just got better and better," Jordan said yesterday, "and it is all down to the hard work that Mugen-Honda, Goodyear and an incredibly dedicated team have put in. It is marvellous for us all."

Except perhaps Ralf Schumacher, who finished second on Sunday. He is involved in an increasingly acrimonious battle to leave Jordan for Williams and his ill-temper was compounded on Sunday by being instructed not to harry Hill into a mistake that could have cost the team its first victory.

Ralf seems to have been egged on to leave by Michael, his brother, who was reported to have described Eddie Jordan as money-grabbing and running a team inferior to Williams. Jordan confronted the older Schumacher last weekend. "For Michael Schumacher to tell me I am money-grabbing is a joke," he said. "Ralf could have a good career with us as we have proved in style. He should think about that."



Mansell's damaged Ford Mondeo comes to a halt on the grass after his collision with Needell at Brands Hatch yesterday. Photograph: Allsport

Reid's challenge creates friction

Kevin Eason watches a spectacular day in the British Touring Car championship

Bad feeling and recrimination are apparently infectious, with the antagonism that has clouded Formula One spreading into the Auto Trader RAC British Touring Car championship yesterday. There were strong words and angry exchanges in the paddock as the saloon car series seemed hell-bent on imitating the scenes between David Coulthard and Michael Schumacher that disgraced the Belgian Grand Prix on Sunday, when Schumacher seemed ready to assault Coulthard after the collision that ended both drivers' races.

Rickard Rydell, the championship leader, grabbed Anthony Reid, his main challenger, by the throat in a bitter pitlane exchange. Rydell said that Reid had shunted his Volvo S40 aside to win and thereby close the championship points gap between them. The confrontation came at the end of a day on which a record 40,000 crowd turned up at Brands Hatch to cheer on Nigel Mansell on his second outing for Ford.

But misfortune never comes singly for the 1992 Formula One world champion, but in great clumps. Yesterday was one of the latter as he crashed out of the sprint race within half a mile of the start and was bumped off twice, the second time terminally in the feature race by Peter Kox's Honda Accord, after 29 laps.



Mansell ponders his premature departure from the race yesterday

Silverstone later this month will be the venue for Mansell's last appearance in the Ford Mondeo, but he is an irrelevance in a championship that looks as though it will go to the wire. Rydell took a 35-point championship lead from Reid to Brands Hatch but the Nissan Primera driver consolidated his position by winning the short sprint before lining up alongside Rydell on pole position for the feature race.

Rydell led until the last six laps, when Reid went for what he called "the big squeeze". For Rydell, that meant his rival deliberately hitting him from behind through Druids Corner to make his way to the chequered flag. Reid said it was a racing accident.

The normally placid Swede had still not calmed down an hour after the race. "I was leading the race comfortably," Rydell said. "I was going into Druids on the racing line when perhaps he forgot to put the brakes on, or perhaps he even put the throttle down, because he rammed me up the rear."

"What I said to him is between us but I had to tell him what I thought." But Reid, who closed the title gap to 23 points with four races to go, said: "After what he has done this season, he has no room to talk. It was a racing accident and he should accept that."



Hill's victory at Spa on Sunday was made all the sweeter because of the frustrating season that he has endured

ATHLETICS

Demands of heavy season take toll

AS Great Britain's hopes for a successful World Cup are dimming, so the lights are almost out on the attempt by some of the world's leading athletes to have the grand prix final moved from Moscow (David Powell writes).

The British selectors meet today to finalise their World Cup team and fill in the gaps left by athletes who have withdrawn. Some, such as Jonathan Edwards and Dougie Walker, are injured. Others, such as Mark Richardson and John Mayock, prefer to concentrate on the Commonwealth Games, which begin three days later.

Nick Buckfield, the national record-holder in the pole vault, and Darren Campbell, the European 100 metres champion, are other possible casualties through injury. Campbell complained on Sunday night that he was suffering from sciatica and that the remainder of his season was in doubt.

The demands on British athletes this season, especially the men, are unprecedented. The men won the European Cup in June and claimed eight gold medals out of the nine that put Britain top of the medals table at the European championships in Budapest just over a week ago. Out of the European Cup victory came qualification for the World Cup, in Johannesburg from September 11 to 13. Then there is the Commonwealth Games.

The athletes' petition to have the grand prix final moved, on the grounds that it was morally indefensible to wave millions of dollars in prize-money before a public in economic crisis, not to mention the perceived dangers of rugby, was handed to the International Amateur Athletic Federation on Friday.

Jon Drummond, the American sprinter and prime mover behind the petition, admitted last night that it was unlikely to make any difference, however. "I do not think they are going to move it," he said.

SAILING

Peters capitalises on rival's mistake

RUSSELL PETERS recaptured the Ultra 30 grand prix title yesterday, winning the Suisail Trophy with a race to spare in Guernsey (Edward Gorman writes). Peters, in DBS, beat Glyn Charles, in United Airlines, into second place overall and Kevin Sproul, in Henri Lloyd, into third.

After an extremely consistent first two days in Havelock Bay, St Peter Port, Peters went into the final three races yesterday with a six-point lead and looking the favourite to snatch the title away from Charles, who had arrived in Guernsey as the overall leader. In the event, Charles made it easy for him when he was thrown out of the second race after a port and starboard incident with Eddie Warden Owen's Team Hoya, in which the latter was holed.

For Peters, who finished fourth and then second in the first two races, this was as satisfying a win as his victory in 1995 over Lawrie Smith. "We were playing it a bit safe because we had so many points in hand," he said. "The conditions were quite difficult, it was wavy and reasonably windy and we had to keep an eye on Glyn. It is a bit tricky sometimes when you are defending because you end up sailing a bit soft instead of attacking full on, but we did enough."

In past years, the Ultras have been blighted by there being only two competitive boats in the six-strong fleet, those of Peters and Smith. This time, there were four genuinely competitive crews, giving the series an improved edge.

In the first race at the Rolex Swan World Cup in Port Cervo, there was British success when Stephen Fein's revamped Swan 46, Full Pelt, won by a minute on corrected time from the Italian Swan 46, Euroasia, in second place and the Dutch Swan 43, Cisne, in third. Full Pelt, with Jo Richards at the helm, was thirteenth over the line.

RUGBY UNION: COMPROMISE SOUGHT BEFORE START OF ENGLISH LEAGUE SEASON

Welsh hold key to fixtures impasse

THE deadlock over fixtures for the new season in England and Wales remains unbroken as the leading English clubs make their final preparations for the first weekend of Allied Dunbar Premiership matches. Hopes of a solution rest with the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU), which has adopted a hardline stance over the two breakaway clubs, Cardiff and Swansea.

Over the weekend there was an exchange of letters between the WRU and the Rugby Football Union (RFU) over last Friday evening's match between Sale and Cardiff, which was not authorised by the WRU took no exception to friendly fixtures between Cardiff and Harlequins, and Llanelli and Saracens, but the proximity of Friday's game to the first weekend of Welsh League fixtures provoked a different reaction.

It is the RFU's hope that the solution proposed by Richmond and Leicester — that England's first-division clubs take steps to vary the timing and regularity of their proposed meetings with Cardiff and Swansea, to avoid any comparison with their normal Premiership games — will prove acceptable to the Welsh authorities. However, the fact that Brian Baister, the chairman of the RFU management board, is in Australia has limited the progress made on this scheme.

In New Zealand, John Hart has received a vote of confidence after the All Blacks lost their fifth successive international at the weekend, against Australia in Sydney. Hart, the national coach since 1996, offered to step aside if the New Zealand Rugby Football Union (NZRFU) believed that it had a better candidate to prepare the side for the World Cup next year but Rob Fisher, the NZRFU chairman, said that that was unlikely.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Michael Courtney brought off a typical coup on this hand.

Dealer South North-South game Rubber bridge

♠ K J 9 7 3
♥ K Q 4 2
♦ A
♣ 8 6 4

♠ A 10 8 5 2
♥ 5
♦ 8 6 4 2
♣ K J 3

♠ N
♥ W
♦ S
♣ E

♠ Q 8 4
♥ A J 6 3
♦ J 9 7 3
♣ Q 10

♠ 10 8 8 7
♥ K Q 10 5
♦ A 9 7 5 2

Contract: Three No-Trumps by South. Leads: six of diamonds

North's double of Two Clubs was for penalties. Courtney (South) explained to me that he thought it showed extra values. I think he was just saying that to excuse his jump to Three No-Trumps. After his initial redouble, Two Spades would have accurately expressed his hand.

East played the ten of diamonds on the first trick, and Courtney the three. He then played a low spade to the queen, on which East threw a club. West took the ace and continued with the two of diamonds to East's queen, on which Courtney played the nine. At this point a low club switch enables the defence to collect four club tricks to go with their two diamonds. But East cashed the king of diamonds on which Courtney played the jack; West, convinced he had found his partner at home with an initial diamond holding of K Q 10 7 5, unblocked the eight of diamonds under the king.

Before continuing diamonds East had the wit to lay down the ace of clubs, but it was difficult for West to play anything other than the three after Courtney had followed with the ten. So East played a fourth round of diamonds to Courtney's now high seven, and with the aid of the marked spade finesse Courtney had ten tricks.

I don't suppose there was anything particularly calculated in his play of the diamonds — he just wanted to discourage the defence from playing clubs.

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Hunt wins

Adam Hunt, from Oxford, the pre-tournament favourite, justified his seeding by winning the Rotary Chess Challenge for Children, the final stages of which were held at the Mind Sports Olympiad over the weekend. From an initial entry of 35,000, which makes this tournament the largest chess event in the world, the best 16 were invited to the Mind Sports Olympiad to contest a knockout. In the final Hunt defeated Richard Jones of Birchengrove in Wales while Chris Dorrington of Stanford, Lincolnshire, who is only 11, reached the semi-finals. The top girl player was Iva Anguelov, who lost to Hunt in the semi-final.

Here are Hunt's two wins.

White: Hunt
Black: Anguelov
UK Chess Challenge Semi-final 1998

Diagram of final position

8									
7									
6									
5									
4									
3									
2									
1									

White: Jones
Black: Hunt
UK Chess Challenge Final 1998

Sicilian Defence

1 e4	c5
2 Nc3	Nc6
3 e3	g6
4 Bg2	Bg7
5 d3	e6
6 Be3	d6
7 f4	Nge7
8 Nf3	O-O
9 O-O	Nd4
10 a5	dae5
11 Ne4	Nd5
12 Bf2	exd4
13 Nxe5	Nx3
14 Be3	fxe3
15 Re1	e2
16 Re2	Nd3+
17 Bxd3	Qd4+
18 Nf1	Qxc5
19 e3	Qc5

White resigns

Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

TODAY

Rugby 98-99

A 16-page guide to the new rugby season

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

BUFAGIN
a. Metal polish
b. Strong drink
c. Poison

STROMBOLI
a. A mountain
b. Pasta
c. Dance music

BENDING MOMENT
a. A judo hold
b. The infant before caning
c. Stress

DIK DIK
a. An executive toy
b. Double dummy
c. An antelope

Answers on page 41

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Houska - Smith, British championship 1998. Both sides are trying to worry their opponent by invading with their queens. How did White continue?

Solution on page 41

Only a week to go before the kick-off

The £100,000 Fantasy League proper has not begun yet, so now is the time to sign up your team for the September 8 start

FANTASY LEAGUE PRIZES

- £50,000 to the top manager, plus a trip for two to the European Cup final
- £10,000 to the runner-up
- £5,000 for third place
- £1,000 monthly prizes, plus £100 of Puma sports equipment
- £500 weekly prizes plus £100 of Puma sports equipment
- £1,000 youth prize
- £1,000 August Warm-up prize (see below)
- £2,000 additional prizes

The big day is drawing nearer: next Tuesday is when the Fantasy League begins, and the points for your 11 players start clocking up. So if you haven't picked your team, have a look at the list (right). There are no more Premiership games between now and then. As you will have heard, *The Times* has teamed up with Fantasy League, the original fantasy football game, to give you the chance to pick your team and gain a share of £100,000. To win the top prize of £50,000 plus a trip to the European Cup final, simply pick 11 players from the list — ONE from each Premiership club.



THE GAME
You have a total budget of £50 million to spend — and remember you can only choose ONE player per club. Your team must be in a 4-4-2 formation, ie:
 ■ one goalkeeper
 ■ two full backs
 ■ two centre backs
 ■ four midfielders
 ■ and two forwards
 You can also have a team chosen at random. Simply tick the Lucky Dip box on the entry form.

THE SCORING
The system is easy:
 A goal scored: 3 points
 An assist (last pass to a scorer): 2 points
 Goalkeeper or defender's appearance (for 45 minutes or more): 1 point
 Goalkeeper or defender clean sheet (including appearance point): 3 points
 Goal conceded (applicable only to goalkeepers or defenders on the field): minus 1 point.

each team must have a different name. The proper Fantasy League game does not kick off until next Tuesday, September 8. Warm-up points are now redundant.

SUPER LEAGUES
If you and some friends or colleagues want to get together and form a league, this is great fun for an office, school, pub or sports club. A minimum of five teams can form a league, and the chairman must send in the entry forms together. All teams entered into a Super League will automatically be entered into the main Fantasy League. You will be posted a detailed monthly report showing how you are all doing, against each other.

BEST WARM-UP TEAM

This is the best possible team from the Warm-up game that finished on Sunday Russell Hesketh (DER) 9
 Gary Charles (AST) 9
 Andy Ince (WES) 9
 Martin Keown (ARS) 9
 Peter Atherton (SHE) 8
 Steve Stone (NOT) 8
 Muzzy Lanzetta (LEI) 8
 Gaspario Poyet (CHE) 5
 Michael Hughes (WIM) 5
 Michael Oates (LIV) 14
 Clive Mendonca (CHA) 11
 Cost: £49.0m Points: 86



SHAWN BOTTLETT/ALLSPORT

THE START
Remember: you can enter Fantasy League at any time from now until noon on Tuesday, September 8 to qualify for the start of the main game, and the Youth League for entrants under 18. On September 8 the real game starts and all points are reset to zero.

TRANSFERS
You will only be allowed to use 12 transfers in the season. From now until noon next Tuesday, September 8, you can make unlimited transfers to strengthen your team. Any transfers made during this period will not affect your allowance of 12 transfers for the season. All transfers received by noon on September 8 will become effective for the start of the main Fantasy League competition which kicks off that evening. Transfers received after noon on September 8 will be deducted from your allowance of 12 transfers for the season.
 To make your transfers, call the 24-hour transfer hotline below and

use your identification number (PIN).
 Transfer Line: 0640 62 51 03 (ex-UK +44 870 901 4293).
 The line closes at noon on September 8 for unlimited transfers. 0640 calls cost 60p/min. Ex-UK calls charged at national rates.
 For terms and conditions send a SAE to: Fantasy League, Competitions Dept., Level 4, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9DB.
 Helpline: 01582 702720.

WARM-UP WINNER
 Congratulations to London SW16, Matthew North of London SW16, who is the £1,000 winner of the August Warm-up prize with his team Def Boy Piers. He picked Grant Tyler of Huntingdon (Grant's Greatest) and Dean Parsons of Caerphilly (Jasons Allsorts) by scoring more goals. All three teams ended on 60 points.

PLAYER LIST WITH FINAL WARM-UP SCORES

Columns show: player code, name, club, Fantasy League points 97-98, Warm-up total, valuation (£m). * means no longer in the Premiership

Player Code	Name	Club	Fantasy League Points 97-98	Warm-up Total	Valuation (£m)
319	Ian Pearce	WES	4	0	3.1
363	Richard Hall	WES	0	0	2.9
367	Javier Mangas	WES	1	1	3.0
369	Nail Roudsok	WES	0	0	3.2
393	Rio Ferdinand	WIM	23	0	3.8
394	Chris Perry	WIM	6	6	2.8
398	Brian McAllister	WIM	2	2	2.8
392	Dean Blackwell	WIM	0	0	2.8
405	Emmanuel Petit	ARS	22	3	4.4
406	Steve Deshaies	ARS	44	3	4.0
426	Ray Parlour	ARS	21	0	4.1
427	Patrick Vieira	ARS	8	0	3.5
425	Stephen Hughes	AST	21	0	3.7
407	Mark Draper	AST	4	4	3.3
409	Mark Chapman	AST	4	4	3.5
410	Alan Thompson	AST	13	4	3.6
411	Fabio Ferrarini	AST	24	2	3.2
435	Lee Hendrie	BLA	20	0	3.0
436	Lee Taylor	BLA	20	0	4.2
435	Billy McKinlay	BLA	20	0	3.7
417	Jason Wilcox	BLA	20	0	4.3
419	Darren Duff	BLA	20	0	4.1
421	Sammy Crockett	BLA	20	0	3.8
422	Tim Sherwood	BLA	21	1	3.1
501	Kaelli Jones	CHA	0	0	3.5
502	Mark Blackwell	CHA	0	0	3.2
504	Matt Holmes	CHA	38	3	4.1
505	Shawn Newton	CHA	0	0	3.3
506	John Rossignol	CHA	0	0	3.1
507	Mark Nicholls	CHA	11	0	3.3
404	Paul Hughes	CHE	4	4	3.1
429	Jody Morris	CHE	26	0	4.4
434	Den Petrescu	CHE	27	0	4.3
434	Edwin Howard	CHE	22	5	4.9
437	Justin Foy	CHE	22	5	5.8
438	Brian Laudrup	CHE	1	1	3.9
439	Dennis Wise	CHE	1	1	3.9
459	John Wozniak	COV	16	16	3.5
589	Paul Hall	COV	20	0	4.4
590	Paul Taylor	COV	20	0	3.4
591	Neil Winter	COV	11	0	3.0
592	Trond Egli Solvestad	COV	0	0	3.3
593	Willie Borland	COV	0	0	3.5
594	George Borsting	COV	0	0	3.2
595	Philipp Clement	COV	0	0	3.1
596	Garvin Stuchman	COV	19	0	3.8
440	Darryl Powell	DER	50	3	3.1
441	Shaun Gooban	DER	14	3	3.2
443	Lee Carsley	DER	50	3	3.1
446	Francisco Balboa	DER	14	3	3.4
446	Jonathan Hunt	DER	14	3	3.2
447	Lee Bellamy	DER	14	3	3.2
448	Garth Farrelly	DER	14	3	3.1
414	Tony Grant	DER	0	0	3.2
418	Danny Williamson	DER	0	0	3.4
447	John O'Leary	DER	21	2	4.6
448	Nick Barry	DER	21	2	4.6
449	Steve McManis	DER	21	2	4.6
450	John Collins	DER	21	2	4.6
451	Don Hutchings	DER	21	2	4.6
452	Lee Bowyer	DER	21	2	4.6
453	All Inge Haslam	DER	21	2	4.6
454	Bruce Riboire	DER	21	2	4.6
455	George Helle	DER	21	2	4.6
456	David Hopkin	DER	21	2	4.6
457	Neil Lennon	DER	21	2	4.6
458	Garry Pender	DER	21	2	4.6
459	Muzzy Izet	DER	21	2	4.6
460	Théo Zagorakis	DER	21	2	4.6
461	Janis Karagjuz	DER	21	2	4.6
462	Janis Karagjuz	DER	21	2	4.6
463	Steve McManis	DER	21	2	4.6
464	Patrick Baggie	DER	21	2	4.6
465	Danny Murphy	DER	21	2	4.6
466	Paul Ince	DER	21	2	4.6
467	Oyvind Leonhardsen	DER	21	2	4.6
468	Michael Smith	DER	21	2	4.6
469	Nicky Butt	DER	21	2	4.6
470	Ryan Giggs	DER	21	2	4.6
471	Paul Scholes	DER	21	2	4.6
472	Jordi Craxfi	DER	21	2	4.6
473	David Beckham	DER	21	2	4.6
474	Roy Keane	DER	21	2	4.6
475	Hall Merson	DER	21	2	4.6
476	Andy Townsend	DER	21	2	4.6
477	Robbie Manson	DER	21	2	4.6
478	Paul Gascoigne	DER	21	2	4.6
479	Alan Moore	DER	21	2	4.6
480	Phil Stamp	DER	21	2	4.6
481	George Gosselin	DER	21	2	4.6
482	David Batty	DER	21	2	4.6
483	Stephen Glass	DER	21	2	4.6
484	Gary Speed	DER	21	2	4.6
485	John Barnes	DER	21	2	4.6
486	Keith Gillespie	DER	21	2	4.6
487	Gary Barty	DER	21	2	4.6
488	Des Jardine	DER	21	2	4.6
489	Toussaint Kabanele	DER	21	2	4.6
490	Robert Lee	DER	21	2	4.6
491	Dietmar Hamann	DER	21	2	4.6
492	Michael Owen	DER	21	2	4.6
493	Guy Whittingham	DER	21	2	4.6
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565	Guy Whittingham	DER	21	2	4.6
566	Guy Whittingham	DER	21	2	4.6
567	Guy Whittingham	DER	21	2	4.6
568	Guy Whittingham	DER	21	2	4.6
569	Guy Whittingham	DER	21	2	4.6
570	Guy Whittingham				

Match-winner Muralitharan unconcerned by Lloyd's injudicious comments

Sri Lanka revel in day of glory

THIS was a day of glory for Sri Lanka and it is not only on that lovely, war-torn island that people would rejoice.

Offered Test matches every now and then by other countries, whenever there is a gap in the calendar, they turned their first victory against England away from home into a proper trouncing.

Alec Stewart acknowledged its significance, compensating for David Lloyd's ill-judged comments the previous evening about Muralitharan. The England captain withheld nothing from Sri Lanka or their star bowler.

"They outplayed us, and one bloke bowled magnificently," Stewart said. "Our idea was to win three successive Tests, and this defeat has taken a bit of the gloss off things."

Murali, the Tamil sorcerer from Kandy, wore a huge smile afterwards, as he savoured the prospect of sharing the match-winner's champagne with his team-mates. He betrayed no irritation at Lloyd's comments because, as he reminded people, he had been subjected to a lengthy public inquiry into the validity of his action three winters ago, in Australia, and subsequently been cleared by the International Cricket Council.

"I know I am bowling OK," he said. "I have been cleared by the ICC and I know I am not doing anything illegal." He sounded thrilled to bits with what he called his "great achievement", saying: "We were given only one Test, and that makes it very difficult."

The Sri Lankans go home as winners of that Test, and also of the Emirates Trophy, so they have enjoyed a decent month.

It was left to others to defend Murali, and to assess his extraordinary ability. Thilanga Sumathipala, the president of the Sri Lanka Cricket Board, took the sting out of things early in the day when he responded publicly to Lloyd's remarks. "There is a set procedure for making such comments, through the match referee, and not the media," Sumathipala said. "We wonder why this was not followed."

"We have been in touch with the English board, and asked them to explain whatever their concerns may be. I didn't hear the interview but I've had a lot of phone calls about it, including some from Australia. It is very disappointing to hear these things about a bowler who has gone through so much, and been cleared."

Richard Peel, the England and Wales Cricket Board's director of corporate affairs, said that Lloyd had expressed private views, and that he would be spoken to as a matter

MICHAEL HENDERSON



At the Oval

of course. The England coach, who is a passionate man, was too passionate on this occasion and did not help his cause by marching into the media centre after tea to take issue with Geoffrey Boycott, who had offered the view on television that England would benefit from having a coach who said less in public.

Arjuna Ranatunga, the Sri Lanka captain, admitted that victory had given him immense pleasure and fulfilled a personal ambition. Murali, he said, was "greedy for wickets" and not at all bothered by the publicity concerning his freakish wrist action. Ranatunga proclaimed him to be the world's best spin bowler — "no No 2 for him" — and said that Sri Lanka must now find him a suitable partner.

What wouldn't England give for a bowler of such gifts? Stewart, who plays with Saqlain Mushtaq for Surrey, thought that Murali outpointed him. "This bloke is in a league of his own," Stewart said. "He spins it more than any finger spinner I have seen. He can make it drop, bounce, drift it away, and bowl a leg spinner."

Stewart was gracious in defeat, which he takes more personally than most men, and it reflected great credit on him. "You must always admire fellow cricketers, and Murali's effort here deserved praise," he said. "He is a bowler of great quality, and showed it over five days."

Sri Lanka's biggest task now is to find some new-ball bowlers to support their match-winning spinner and their brilliant batsmen. They have approached Ian Botham to help them find fast bowlers for the future.

Botham, who would be required to work for four weeks a year with the bowlers in Sri Lanka, will let them know whether he is willing before the end of the week.



Muralitharan, centre, and his Sri Lanka team-mates celebrate the fall of another England wicket at the Oval yesterday

FINAL SCOREBOARD FROM THE OVAL. Sri Lanka won toss. ENGLAND: First Innings. M A Butcher c Jayawardene b Wickramasinghe 10. S P James c and b Muralitharan 36. G A Hick c Muralitharan 107. P M Stewart c Wickramasinghe b Perera 2. M R Ranapragasam c Jayawardene b Muralitharan 53. J P Crawley not out 156. B C Holloake c Alapattu b Muralitharan 14. D G Cork c Muralitharan 6. J D R Seneviratne c Muralitharan 2. D Gough c Muralitharan 4. A R C Fraser b Muralitharan 32. Extras (b 1, lb 11, w 2, nb 9) 28. Total (158.5 overs, 637 mins) 445. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-16 (James 5), 2-76 (Hick 28), 3-91 (Hick 28), 4-208 (Hick 100), 5-230 (Crawley 11), 6-277 (Crawley 42), 7-333 (Crawley 88), 8-343 (Crawley 98), 9-352 (Crawley 104). BOWLING: Wickramasinghe 30-41-2-2.

Crawley ahead of Hick for last tour place

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

THE last Test match of summer is perennially a cruel eliminator and three of those who made up England's best available XI at the Oval this week will not be considered good enough for the best 17 to tour Australia, when the winter parties are announced at Lord's this morning.

Graeme Hick is set to be omitted despite making 107 in the first innings against Sri Lanka. It was a century trounced, 24 hours later, by a more convincing one from John Crawley, who is likely to be preferred for the last of seven batting places.

Steve James played at the Oval only due to injury and will have no genuine expectations of touring, at least in the senior team, but exclusion will be a bitter blow for Ian Salisbury, who played through the second half of the season identified as the wrist spinner with whom England could take on Shane Warne.

He is no Warne, never has been and never will be. Far more disappointing — for this was a realistic hope — he looks neither mentally nor technically equipped for Test cricket. The selectors may now come up with a single surprise in an otherwise elementary conclusion by naming a second off spinner alongside Robert Croft.

Recent spin bowling is in such desperately short supply at county level that Graeme Swann, a teenager who is taking bagfuls of wickets for England under-19s, will be considered. But if neither of the prominent left-armers, Phil Tufnell and Ashley Giles, are to be taken, then the most attractive compromise is a recall for the experienced and dependable Peter Such.

Such played the last of his eight Test matches four years ago and has actually endured one of his leanest seasons. In this, though, he has suffered like every other spinner from discouraging weather and pitches. He remains the most accomplished off spinner in the country.

With the touring sides being named a week earlier than usual, the selectors had not had one formal meeting but a series of discussions. So far as the Ashes party is concerned, these have focused upon four positions — the ones that may, this morning, be filled by Crawley, Such, Warren Hegg and Dean Headley.

Hegg is favoured to earn his first full tour at the age of 30, as much on the strength of his combative batting as on wicketkeeping not notably su-

perior to that of Keith Piper, for instance. Paul Nixon and Adrian Aymes must also have been mentioned for a place that requires qualifications as close as possible to those of Alec Stewart — no easy comparison.

Certain parameters for the party were agreed early. An all-rounder will be taken, and must now surely be Ben Hollis. Also, although 17 players will travel, the last place was not to be used as a top-out, accommodating both Hick and Crawley for instance, but as an opportunity for a young fast bowler.

Alex Tudor, highly rated by Allan Donald, among others, has been the chosen man for some while but, like Graham Thorpe, his Surrey team-mate, he will have to undergo a fitness test later this month. With Alan Mullally a certainty to complement the three established quicker bowlers, one further seamer had to be found. Headley, England's main bowler when the Carib-

SUGGESTED TOUR PARTIES

ENGLAND (to Australia) A J Stewart (captain), M A Butcher, N Hussain, G P Thorpe, M R Ranapragasam, J P Crawley, D B Trott, P M Stewart, D Gough, D G Cook, A R C Fraser, A D Murray, D W Headley, B C Holloake, W Hegg, A J Tudor. ENGLAND A (to Zimbabwe and South Africa) M P Vaughan (captain), D L Maddy, S Peters, M B Lloyd, D A Shan, A Flintoff, R C Jones, D A Mazharzadeh, G M W Read, G P Swann, C J Schofield, P M Huchison, E S H Giddins, P J Franks, J D Lowry, S J Harrison.

bean tour began in January, has done nothing to warrant neglect.

A one-day squad, for the ICC Trophy in Bangladesh next month, will be named, probably under the captaincy of Adam Holoake, but far more debate will have been required in structuring the A-team, either 15 or 16-strong, to visit Zimbabwe and South Africa in the new year.

Even the A-team captaincy will have thrown up half-a-dozen candidates, from Mark Alleyne, Matthew Maynard and James among the experienced brigade to Andy Flintoff and Owais Shah among the young guns. Michael Vaughan, 23 and an all-round good egg, offers sensible middle ground.

Shah will certainly tour and should have up to five of his successful under-19 side this summer with him on a tour that is best used to bridge the gap between age-group cricket and the senior England team.

Pakistan pushed into damage limitation

CHELMSFORD (first day of four: Pakistan Under-19s won toss): England Under-19s have scored 368 for nine wickets against Pakistan Under-19s

PAKISTAN Under-19s went into this match without a frontline spinner because Shoaib Malik, their one off spinner, was injured, while England would have selected two or even three slow bowlers, fitness permitting.

The influence of Wasim and Waqar is powerful enough, it seems, to turn the heads of young cricketers in Pakistan away from the traditional sub-continental arts of twirl towards bowling quick stuff.

This Pakistan youth side, who are 2-0 down in the best-of-three NatWest series, have of their own mini-version of their own mini-series of the celebrated senior new-ball pair and Zaidi Saeed, the pairing and Irfan Fazil tried their best to haul Pakistan back into the game after a ragged start.

They were only marginally successful in justifying the decision of Bazid Khan, their captain, to field first on a ground where insertion is not ground where insertion is not usually given a second thought. They retrieved a situation that looked ominous at 165 for one with Key, who 165 for one with Key, who made 88, and Gough going well. After the fall of five wickets in the afternoon eight down for 287, there was hope for the touring side.

However, the England tail did more than their fair share. Logan hit a heavy fifty and drives in the last man, Jamie Grove, who enthusiastically joined him enthusiastically in an unbroken last-wicket stand of 51 before autumnal light brought an early end to proceedings.

Newell repairs early damage

HOVE (first day of four: Sussex won toss): Sussex have scored 313 for eight wickets against Glamorgan

DESPITE an inexperienced batting line-up, and the loss of their most accomplished batsman, Chris Adams, to suicidal running between the wickets, three young Sussex cricketers guided the home team away from danger, after a precarious start. Half-centuries from Rajesh Rao, Keith Newell and Robin Martin-Jenkins allowed Sussex to bat through the day in making 313 for eight.

With the Bank Holiday weather conducive to a day's batting, Adams, the Sussex captain, elected to bat first. But, on a well-grassed wicket, the Glamorgan seam bowlers found sufficient lateral movement to reduce the home team to 23 for three by the tenth over.

However, Sussex's revival owed much to two batsmen who have spent a large proportion of the season in the second team, and for whom Michael Bevan's departure, to

link up with Australia's Commonwealth Games squad, has benefited.

As the wicket eased Newell struck a century 84, from 142 balls with two sixes and eleven fours. In conjunction with Rao, with whom he shared a fifth-wicket stand of 97 in 35 overs, Newell redressed the balance, cemented by a robust career-best 78 by Martin-Jenkins.

There is a phlegmatic air to Newell's batting and during

the course of his innings he exhibited a full range of strokes. Having bowled nine overs for seven runs, the off spinner, Robert Croft, who would arguably have been better employed at the Oval, was dispatched over the main stand and into neighbouring gardens. Newell repeated the dose to complete his half-century, but with a fifth first-class century within his grasp he meekly hit Dale to extra cover. By the evening, Mar-

tin-Jenkins joined the Sussex revival, but having struck ten fours in 133 balls he fell to the last ball of the day.

In the first hour of the morning session batting had been a more arduous task, as the ball jagged around on a verdant wicket. Owen Parkin, bowling up the hill from the Sea End, accounted for the Sussex openers in consecutive overs. Toby Petre, aiming for the short square boundary towards the pavilion, was expertly held by Wayne Law at short square leg, while Wasim Khan was adjudged in front as he shuffled half-

Jamie Carpenter, the left-hander, laboured 24 balls for his duck before a thin edge to Adrian Shaw, the wicketkeeper, off Andrew Davies ended a difficult innings. As is Adams's wont, he hepped the tempo with forthright strokeplay that leaves no one in any doubt as to his intentions. Having survived a chance from a top-edged pull to deep square leg on 35, Rao's indecisive call left him stranded.

Newell sweeps Croft for six during his innings of 84

link up with Australia's Commonwealth Games squad, has benefited.

Strauss and Gating in harmony

There was a good covering of grass, a touch of moisture, and a Hampshire attack that has performed well enough in their past two games to record resounding wins over Essex and Sussex; all the ingredients, in fact, to justify inserting a Middlesex side that was lacking the core of its batting strength. Justin Langer has returned to Australia to prepare for the tour to Pakistan, Mark Ramprakash was suffering at the Oval and Owais Shah was leading the England under-19s at Chelmsford.

Unfortunately for Smith, his bowlers all failed to hit a consistent line, with the result that Middlesex enjoyed their best start to a game since Gating and Langer put on more than 300 against Essex

at the end of June. Duncan Goodchild and Richard Kettleborough put on 56 for the first wicket and the bat was pretty much in control for the rest of the day.

Goodchild never quite looked in and it was no surprise to see him outsmarted by Kevan James, but Kettleborough, on his return to the side, again looked a player of immense potential.

The two best innings of the day, though, came from Gating and Strauss, the former who made his Middlesex debut back in 1975, and the latter who was born only two years later.

Strauss, on his debut, looked quite at home, showing a good defence and a willingness to punish the bad ball. He

made a fine 83, which included 14 fours, before gliding a ball from Nixon McLean to Will Kendall at second slip.

As for Gating, one school of thought is suggesting that he will hang up his boots at the end of the season to concentrate on coaching and his England duties. Another school, mindful of the fact that he is eager to reach his century of centuries, believes he will carry on for another year.

At the age of 41, he is still showing a remarkable appetite for runs, which must rub off — on the likes of Kettleborough and Strauss. Yesterday, he rattled his way to 77, mostly through the offside, before steering a ball from Dimitri Mascarenhas to Matthew Keach at second slip.

Lancashire face critical test

IF THE last round of Britannic Assurance county championship matches saw Gloucestershire slip out of contention for the title, then this might be the week when Lancashire's challenge expires. Their fixture against Derbyshire, beginning today, appears to be the easiest of the top three counties, but failure to win this rehearsal for the NatWest Trophy final on Saturday may leave them with too much ground to recover in the remaining weeks.

Lancashire have not beaten Derbyshire in the championship at Old Trafford since 1985 when Jack Striffons, now the club chairman, took eight wickets in the game. Last year saw Derbyshire win by an innings inside two days at Derby, but the possibility of anything approaching a repeat of that must be considered remote.

Surrey, the leaders, may find themselves on a green, seaming pitch at Headingley

against a Yorkshire pace bowling attack that, at full strength, is arguably the best in the country. The left-arm swing of Hutchison complements Gough and Silverwood while Hamilton has seized the opportunity created by injury to Craig White to become one

TOP OF TABLE

Table with columns: Team, P, W, L, D, B, Pts. Surrey (10) 14 8 2 36 50 235. Lancs (11) 14 8 1 5 25 42 212. Glouce (7) 14 8 1 18 53 202. Yorkshire (4) 14 6 3 5 39 51 301.

REMAINING FIXTURES: Surrey Today v Yorkshire (A) September 2; Durham (H) September 17; Lancashire (H) September 17; Warwickshire (A) September 17; Essex (H) September 17; Surrey (A) September 17; Lancashire Today v Derbyshire (H) September 11; Nottinghamshire (A) September 11; Warwickshire (H) September 11; Gloucestershire Today v Northamptonshire (H) September 11; Middlesex (A) September 17; Nottinghamshire (A) September 17; Yorkshire Today v Surrey (H) September 2; Warwickshire (H) September 17; v Sussex (A).

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE county championship. Hampshire v Middlesex. SOUTHAMPTON (first day of four: Hampshire won toss): Middlesex have scored 357 for five wickets against Hampshire

SUSSEX: First Innings. M T E Pollock c Law b Parkin 0. W G Khan lbw b Parkin 3. J R Carpenter c Shaw b Davies 0. *C J Adams run out off Croft 43. R K Rao c Shaw b Davies 76. R Newell c Powell b Dale 84. R S C Martin-Jenkins c Shaw b Thomas 78. R J Kitley b Thomas 6. J N J Wilton not out 3. Extras (b 5, lb 5, w 2, nb 4) 20. Total (10 wks, 102.2 overs) 373.

P J Franks c Inran b Irfan 5. R Logan not out 7. M Wallace c Humayun b Nasir 0. J Groves not out 25. Extras (b 4, lb 14, w 1, nb 4) 18. Total (6 wks) 368.

MIDDLESEX: First Innings. D J Goodchild lbw b James 83. R A Kettleborough c Aymes b James 50. A J Strauss c Kendall b McLean 86. M W Gating c Keach b Mascarenhas 77. M W Gating c Keach b Mascarenhas 77. M W Gating c Keach b Mascarenhas 77. M W Gating c Keach b Mascarenhas 77. M W Gating c Keach b Mascarenhas 77.

LANCASHIRE: Today v Derbyshire (H) September 11; Nottinghamshire (A) September 11; Warwickshire (H) September 11; Gloucestershire Today v Northamptonshire (H) September 11; Middlesex (A) September 17; Nottinghamshire (A) September 17; Yorkshire Today v Surrey (H) September 2; Warwickshire (H) September 17; v Sussex (A).

BOWLING: Irfan Fazil 23.1-1-120-4, Zahid Saad 22-2-96-3, Kashif Raza 17-3-54-1, Basim Khan 13-0-20-0, Hasan Raza 13-4-43-1, Inam-ul-Haq 3-0-17-0.

GLAMORGAN: M P Vaughan, W L Law, A Dale, M J Powell, P A Cobey, R D B Croft, A D Shaw, S D Thomas, A P Davis, O T Parkin, A W Evans.

SUSSEX: Today v Surrey (H) September 2; Warwickshire (H) September 17; v Sussex (A).

PAKISTAN: Inam-ul-Haq, Taseem Umar, *Bazid Khan, Hasan Raza, Faisal Iqbal, Inam Nazir, Zayed Qayyum, Humayun Farhan, Irfan Fazil, Zaidi Saeed, Nasir Raza.

THIRD UNDER-19 TEST. England v Pakistan. CHELMSFORD (first day of four: Pakistan won toss): England have scored 368 for nine wickets against Pakistan

ENGLAND: First Innings. I Flanagan lbw b Zahid 6. R W T Roy c Inam-ul-Haq b Khan 8. M Gough c Humayun b Hasan 67. *D A Shan c Humayun b Zahid 2. S D Peters c Hasan b Zahid 10. G Swann c Taseem b Irfan 36. G R Hayward c Humayun b Irfan 38.

ENGLAND A (to Zimbabwe and South Africa) M P Vaughan (captain), D L Maddy, S Peters, M B Lloyd, D A Shan, A Flintoff, R C Jones, D A Mazharzadeh, G M W Read, G P Swann, C J Schofield, P M Huchison, E S H Giddins, P J Franks, J D Lowry, S J Harrison.

SUSSEX v Glamorgan. HOVE (first day of four: Sussex won toss): Sussex have scored 313 for eight wickets against Glamorgan

ENGLAND: Second Innings. M A Butcher c Jayawardene b Wickramasinghe 10. S P James c and b Muralitharan 36. G A Hick c Muralitharan 107. P M Stewart c Wickramasinghe b Perera 2. M R Ranapragasam c Jayawardene b Muralitharan 53. J P Crawley not out 156. B C Holloake c Alapattu b Muralitharan 14. D G Cork c Muralitharan 6. J D R Seneviratne c Muralitharan 2. D Gough c Muralitharan 4. A R C Fraser b Muralitharan 32. Extras (b 1, lb 11, w 2, nb 9) 28. Total (158.5 overs, 637 mins) 445.

REMAINING FIXTURES: Surrey Today v Yorkshire (A) September 2; Durham (H) September 17; Lancashire (H) September 17; Warwickshire (A) September 17; Essex (H) September 17; Surrey (A) September 17; Lancashire Today v Derbyshire (H) September 11; Nottinghamshire (A) September 11; Warwickshire (H) September 11; Gloucestershire Today v Northamptonshire (H) September 11; Middlesex (A) September 17; Nottinghamshire (A) September 17; Yorkshire Today v Surrey (H) September 2; Warwickshire (H) September 17; v Sussex (A).

GLAMORGAN: M P Vaughan, W L Law, A Dale, M J Powell, P A Cobey, R D B Croft, A D Shaw, S D Thomas, A P Davis, O T Parkin, A W Evans.

SUSSEX: Today v Surrey (H) September 2; Warwickshire (H) September 17; v Sussex (A).

PAKISTAN: Inam-ul-Haq, Taseem Umar, *Bazid Khan, Hasan Raza, Faisal Iqbal, Inam Nazir, Zayed Qayyum, Humayun Farhan, Irfan Fazil, Zaidi Saeed, Nasir Raza.

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For further details and an application form, please contact BBC Recruitment Services (quoting appropriate ref.) by September 8th on 0181-740 0005, Minicom 0181-225 9678. Alternatively, send a postcard to BBC Recruitment Services, PO Box 7000, London W12 8GJ, or e-mail recserv@bbc.co.uk quoting ref. and giving your full name and address. Application forms to be returned by September 11th.

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Keeping divorce clean

Separating couples are to have help in finding the best solicitors for their case, says Marilyn Stowe

Partners in a collapsing marriage are not in the ideal frame of mind to choose the lawyer best able to help them through one of the most difficult times of their lives. Yet that is what is expected of thousands of men and women each year without any practical way of distinguishing between the abilities of the solicitors available. How are they expected to judge who is skilled, who has genuine experience in the complex field of family law and who merely purports to have? How can they know which lawyers relish turning cases into slugging matches in court or which ones prefer the infinitely more humane route of settlement by agreement?

How can you find the best lawyer?

How can they know which lawyer has a sensible approach to keeping costs down and which will run up the meter to such an extent that the parties are in danger of spending the assets in meeting the bill? I recently came across a case in which the assets were worth no more than £40,000 and the lawyer had run up costs of £14,000 and the case was not yet halfway through. That is unforgivable. How are people expected to negotiate their way through a minefield that has undoubtedly claimed casualties over the years? How do they tell which lawyers are weak, which are over-aggressive, which are negligent and which simply incompetent?

— just look at same-sex relationships, prenuptial agreements and cross-border child abduction — the decision by the Law Society to establish a Family Law Panel is long overdue.

The panel will begin taking applications for accreditation next month and be formally launched in January next year. It will set benchmark standards and will, I am convinced, protect the public and aid the profession.

Of course, not everyone in the profession favours a system of accreditation. Some argue that the level of specialist attainment does not warrant the creation of a panel or that there are too many lawyers who are over-aggressive and may not comply with the non-adversarial approach seen as best practice.

However, the aim of the Family Law Panel is not only to reward and recognise specialists but, importantly, to encourage, advise and assist the development of skilled family lawyers. It is not intended to be a rigid, exclusive club but an inclusive body. Criticism before the actual standard has been announced is premature. Those standards will be exacting.

All applicants, and there are expected to be about 5,000 solicitors seeking accreditation, will have to complete questionnaires which will be marked by a team of assessors. I will be the chief assessor/chief examiner. These will be family lawyers with at least ten years' experience and who may also hold judicial office. Individual candidates must have three years' admission and 350 chargeable hours



The arguments are getting worse: how much longer before expensive solicitors are hired?

in family law over the past three years. Otherwise, applicants must show 1,000 hours of general litigation experience within the previous three years and minimum family experience, post-qualification, of 350 hours within the past five years.

They will also have to pass written examination or other assessment as deemed appropriate. What will accreditation mean? It will provide a badge of quality based on this simple criterion: would an informed observer be happy if a friend or relative had instructed the solicitor concerned?

This is just a beginning. I see the process evolving. Perhaps the qualifying criterion may be set higher, perhaps there should be levels of attainment for specialist practitioners over and above the standard mark?

It is vitally important that the panel is seen as helpful to the profession. I would prefer to give applicants the opportunity to put right a defect than simply failing them, because this will inevitably lead to a rise in standards.

I also believe that membership of the panel will be a more appropriate criterion for a legal aid franchise than the present requirements, which are more about internal administrative systems

than professional abilities. For the public, the Family Law Panel should serve as a mark of reassurance helping to promote trust between lawyer and client and cutting down on the number of complaints that arise when this trust collapses. Most importantly, however, it will mean that men and women, often at the most vulnerable time of their lives, will be prevented from making decisions that could make matters worse.

The author is head of the family law team at the Leeds solicitors Graham Stowe Baxson and has just been appointed chief assessor/chief examiner of the Family Law Panel of the Law Society.

Greedy briefs, foolish judges

Martin Mears despairs at the system's response to some bitter divorces

There is no greater wrecker of dinner parties than the divorcee. This Ancient Mariner's tale is of bitter injustices suffered at the hands of grasping spouses, shyster lawyers and prejudiced judges. Only politeness prevents the company from responding in the same manner as the Mariner's reluctant audience: "Hold off! Unhand me, greybeard loon!"

Terence Frisby is the author of the 1970s stage hit *There's a Girl in My Soup*. His latest work *Outrageous Fortunes* is, however, far from light comedy. It must rank as the mother of all divorce-bore sagas — except that it is not to the least boring.

Mr Frisby spent more than ten years in the coils of the divorce lawyers and emerged a scarred and bitter man. Non-lawyers or those without experience of the family courts will suspect him of exaggerating. Others will think he is describing the abuses and injustices of the past. Not so. For every one of the grotesqueries related by Mr Frisby, I can think of a parallel in my own legal experience or, indeed, in the recent law reports.

Have we moved on? Probably not, I fear

At an early stage, Mr Frisby was evicted from his own house by an "ouster injunction". Later, he was awarded "access" to his young son: two hours a fortnight. He applied for an increase. The application was rejected with the startling words: "It may be that this father is being too possessive. I think once a fortnight is appropriate." This is how many family judges thought in the early Seventies. Some still do. "Absent" fathers, in practice, still have as much or as little contact with their young children as the mother is prepared to concede. Indeed, the courts ruled years ago that a mother had an undoubted right to move wherever she wished, even if this meant that father and children never saw each other. At the same time, the courts have emphasised that the questions of access/contact and child maintenance are wholly unrelated. Mr Frisby complains bitterly about the bloody-mindedness of his wife's lawyer and the general anti-husband/father bias of the courts.

On each of these counts, he presents a compelling case. Even if he is wrong about particular instances, his general picture is all too plausible. Bloody-

minded belligerence? Lawyers acquire a reputation as effective divorce practitioners for possessing precisely this quality. The object is to wear the other party down by a barrage of applications, affidavits, correspondence and demands for discovery, along with a refusal to give way on any point whatsoever. Unsurprisingly, the resultant lawyer's bills are routinely out of all proportion to the assets involved.

Judicial bias? This is a general one derived from the institutional assumptions of the family courts and the inherited attitudes of the judges. The reports of Court of Appeal decisions contain numerous examples. In *Louslow v Heng*, the Court of Appeal gave leave to a divorced mother to take young children to New Zealand, severing what the judges themselves described

as the children's "close and loving relationship with their father and paternal grandparents". In *Fisher v Fisher*, Lord Justice Nourse saw nothing odd in requiring a husband to pay increased maintenance to enable his former wife to support a child she had by another man after the separation. In *Whiting v Whiting*, the court refused to discharge a nominal periodical payments order in favour of the wife, even though her financial position was arguably better than the husband's: she might fall on hard times and need a "last backstop".

Mr Frisby, likewise, was ordered to pay maintenance to a young, able-bodied woman who was actually financially better off than he was. Whenever he lost a round, he would be ordered to pay costs, whereas if he won, there always seemed to be some reason why there should be a no-costs order.

Have we moved on since Mr Frisby's tribulations? It is unlikely that some of the crasser injustices would be inflicted today. Ouster injunctions are no longer granted routinely. Judges are more ready to concede that divorced fathers should have at least some rights in relation to their children. But that is only to say that the culture is slowly changing, not that it has changed.

Outrageous Fortune. First Thing Publications. £16.95. Details: Mides PR. 0171-584 7474

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An information pack is available: by telephone: 0151 866 3163 or from: Peter Dawson, Clerk Designate, Wirral Borough Magistrates' Courts, Chester Street, Birkenhead, Wirral, L41 5HW

Closing date for receipt of applications is: Friday, 25 September 1998 with interviews expected to take place in October 1998.

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BLACKSTONE CHAMBERS

We are pleased to announce the formation of Blackstone Chambers, formerly known as 2 Hare Court. Chambers has a well established practice in commercial, public and employment law.

From 1st September 1998, Blackstone Chambers will operate from its new premises at Blackstone House, Temple, EC4Y 9BW. The joint Heads of Chambers are Presley Baxendale QC and Charles Flint QC. A full list of members of Chambers is as follows:

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| Gemma White | Jane Collier | Emma Dixon |
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| Julia Ellins | Andrew George | Kate Gallafant |

Blackstone Chambers is also pleased to announce the appointment of two new tenants, Kate Gallafant and Andrew George, on completion of their pupillages in Chambers. Our telephone number remains 0171-583 1770.

Our other contact details are:
Fax: 0171-822 7222 DX LDE: 281 Out of hours contact: 0171-822 7272 E-mail: clerks@blackstonechambers.com Web site: www.blackstonechambers.com
For further information please call us and ask for Martin Smith, Senior Clerk, or Julia Horner, Practice Manager.

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DEGREE COURSE VACANCIES 1998: ENGINEERING

Those seeking places should start by making a phone call, says John O'Leary

How to use listings

Today's listing of courses with vacancies in clearing covers engineering and technology. Although slow to fill in many cases and generally demanding lower grades than the popular arts and social sciences, the area has an enviable employment record.

Once you have decided on a course to pursue, contact the institution with your UCAS number and your UCAS application number. The university or college will ask for the form if it is offering a place, but you should send it only when you have eliminated any other options.

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Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	P/E
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
BANKS					
Bank of America	28.50	+0.10	4.5	28.50	28.50
Bank of India	15.50	+0.10	4.5	15.50	15.50
Bank of Japan	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Bank of Korea	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
Bank of London	18.50	+0.10	4.5	18.50	18.50
Bank of Montreal	16.50	+0.10	4.5	16.50	16.50
Bank of New York	20.50	+0.10	4.5	20.50	20.50
Bank of Paris	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Bank of Singapore	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Bank of South Africa	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Bank of Taiwan	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
Bank of Thailand	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Bank of Tokyo	16.50	+0.10	4.5	16.50	16.50
Bank of Victoria	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Bank of West	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Bank of World	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
BREWERIES, PUBS & REST					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
ELECTRICITY					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
ELECTRONIC & ELECT					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
ENGINEERING					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
CONSTRUCTION					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
DISTRIBUTORS					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50

Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	P/E
ENGINEERING, VEHICLES					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
INVESTMENT TRUSTS					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
FOOD MANUFACTURERS					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50

Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	P/E
MEDIA					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
PHARMACEUTICALS					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
SUPPORT SERVICES					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50

Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	P/E
PRINTING & PAPER					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
PROPERTY					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
TELECOMMUNICATIONS					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50

Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	P/E
TRANSPORT					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50
WATER					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	10.50	+0.10	4.5	10.50	10.50

Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	P/E
RETAILERS, FOOD					
Asahi Breweries	15.20	+0.10	4.5	15.20	15.20
Beck's	17.20	+0.10	4.5	17.20	17.20
Carlsberg	12.50	+0.10	4.5	12.50	12.50
Heineken	14.50	+0.10	4.5	14.50	14.50
Kingfisher	11.50	+0.10	4.5	11.50	11.50
Sankey	13.50	+0.10	4.5	13.50	13.50
Yokohama	1				

Junction charge attacked by developers

By FRASER NELSON

LAND SECURITIES, the £4.5 billion property investment company, has attacked government reforms that will force private developers to pay for the upkeep of new road junctions on an indefinite basis.

The company has given warning that the charges — to be levied on developers building feeder roads on to a motorway or trunk road — may deter urban regeneration and militate against job creation.

Ian Henderson, chief executive, said: "It is not right that the present generation should pay the maintenance charges resulting from road usage by future generations."

The reforms, which have slipped the attention of many in the construction industry, are buried within the pages of the Government's Road Review and were highlighted by *Estates Gazette*. Under the old system, developers would help to pay for the construction of a new junction but the Highways Agency would look after it on an ongoing basis.

Terry Mulroy, a spokesman for the Institute of Civil Engineers, said: "This is just a new form of tax for the private sector. The developers won't like it, they will just pass it on."

The Highways Agency said: "It is the development that is spurring extra traffic, so it is the developer who should contribute to the maintenance of the roads, even if they are used by a wider public."

The levy of tax will be arranged on an individual basis. It is not expected to bring in more than £10 million a year.

Airbus set to take on Boeing again over TWA order

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

AIRBUS and Boeing face a renewed dogfight over a billion-dollar airline order in the wake of the controversial British Airways purchase from the European aerospace consortium.

Trans World Airlines, the US carrier, is seeking bids from manufacturers for a refitting of its entire fleet. The order will be worth up to \$5 billion (£3 billion), the same amount that BA spent at Airbus and Boeing together.

The US carrier is an important target for Airbus because it would open up the American market, still largely dominated by Boeing, American Airlines, Delta and Continental all have exclusivity agreements that prevent them from buying Airbus aircraft for several years or even decades.

TWA is looking to buy up to 100 narrow-body aircraft, and has concluded its technical evaluation of Airbus's A320

model as well as Boeing's 717 and 737.

Winning the order for the initial refitting is likely to result in further orders as the airline updates and adds to its fleet. TWA is currently a Boeing client with an ageing fleet of 727 single-aisle planes.

One US aerospace analyst said: "Airbus has a good chance of beating Boeing on its home turf. It would be an important victory."

Similar to the BA order, the TWA bid battle is likely to raise shareholder concerns that Airbus could forsake profitability to win the order at any cost.

Analysts have suggested that Airbus may not make a profit on the BA order because it dropped its prices unusually low to beat Boeing.

TWA has not made a profit in a decade and is burdened by debts of more than \$800 mil-

lion. If Airbus was to make a low-ball offer, Wall Street believes that TWA would end its longstanding association with Boeing.

The US analyst said: "TWA is in no position to be choosy. Whoever makes the lowest offer wins. It should have refitted its fleet years ago but could never afford it."

Traditionally, airlines prefer to stick to one manufacturer to avoid having to train pilots and technicians on two different sets of aircraft.

BA announced last week that it will buy up to 220 new aircraft, including up to 188 short-haul jets from Airbus.

Firm orders have been placed for 59 A320 Airbus jets valued at as much as \$2.8 billion, with options on an additional 129 aircraft. BA announced firm orders for 16 Boeing jets valued at about \$2.4 billion, plus options on 16 additional aircraft.

Avocet float to net Kent £9m

By FRASER NELSON

A FORMER management consultant who advised Avocet on an aborted flotation six years ago stands to gain £9 million in shares if the window and door security company succeeds in coming to the market this autumn.

David Kent, who became

chief executive of Avocet after it decided on a trade sale rather than flotation in 1992, stands to own up to 13 per cent of the company depending on its reception with institutions.

He said: "Under market conditions, we would probably not get the float away. But hopefully, things will change." The company is floating to

repay the £65 million of debt it took on after last year's buyout from SIG group. It paid £4.1 million in interest repayments last year alone.

Avocet buys most of its window and door locks from the Far East, and says it can only benefit from the current currency turmoil. It hopes to float with a price tag of £70 million.



Old Monk, new money: from left, Jonathan Hale, Gerry Martin and Steve Pyle

Pub chain goes to AIM

By DOMINIC WALSH

GERRY MARTIN, whose brother Tim is chairman of J D Wetherspoon, is to float his own pub company. The Old Monk Company is to raise £3 million on the Alternative Investment Market. Before new money, the float is expected to value the company at between £12 million and £14 million. Mr Martin plans to expand

his southern-based estate of 18 pubs into a nationwide chain of 50 premises within three years, largely using the Old Monk brand, a free-house concept similar in style to Wetherspoon pubs.

In the year to April 30, the Old Monk Company lifted pre-tax profits by 118 per cent to £489,000, on turnover 91 per cent higher at £6.41 million. Operating profit was 96 per

cent higher at £717,000. After a £1.3 million private placing in February, the company has about 50 shareholders. The float will dilute Mr Martin's 80 per cent holding to 60 per cent.

Despite the recent pressure on pub company shares, he is confident of getting the float away: "As long as we are realistic in our pricing we'll be fine."

DTI faces action by landlords over guest ale sales

By RICHARD MILES

A GROUP of tied pub landlords is preparing to sue the Department of Trade and Industry for £1.6 billion in damages because they have been forced to use a home-produced beer as their guest ale rather than a cheaper foreign import.

The group of rebel intransigent landlords, who are locked in a legal battle with Nomura, the Japanese investment bank that owns the pub chain, over the terms of their lease, claims the DTI is breaking European law by requiring a guest ale to be "a bottom-fermented, cask-produced" beer.

Guest ales make up an estimated 5 per cent of a pub's revenues, but if landlords were permitted to sell cheap lager instead — a high volume drink available at wide discounts across the European Union — the guest ale could account for 50 per cent of a pub's annual income. A court ruling in favour of the landlords would hit the revenues of the big pub companies and would also undermine any attempt by banks such as Nomura to securitise the cashflow of pubs. About half the income from a tied agreement derives from sales of the brewers' own drinks.

Martin Moore, who claims to have obtained sufficient funding to mount the legal action, says regional and smaller independent brewers would be unaffected by the lawsuit because the guest ale requirement applies only to pub chains with 2,000 or more outlets.

He said: "Article 30 of the Treaty [of Rome] is designed to eliminate national barriers to the free movement of goods. It extends to government-sponsored campaigns in favour of home-produced goods. We believe the requirement to have a guest ale under these terms is covered by the treaty."

Mr Moore claims that if the law had been interpreted correctly since 1989, then the 12,500 landlords who buy a guest ale would have been better off by an estimated £1.6 billion because they could have bought cheaper beers at a wider discount.

The DTI was unavailable for comment.

Firms get route on to Internet

By PAUL DURMAN

PRIVATE shareholders are accustomed to being treated as second-class — receiving market-moving information long after institutional fund managers have traded on it.

The Accounting Standards Board recently suggested that the Internet could provide a partial solution to this problem, and urged companies to make further use of electronic means as a way of disseminat-

ing financial information, and in particular the preliminary announcement [of results], to a wider audience."

Now, Hemmington Scott, the financial publishing group, is offering to help companies that are unwilling to run a regularly updated Web site of their own. For companies willing to pay, Hemmington Scott's site (www.hemscott.com) will carry press releases, annual reports and other information, such as brokers' fore-

casts. New announcements should be added within a day. Companies already using the service include Hanson, Unilever and PowerGen.

John Suckling, of Hemmington Scott, estimated the annual charge for a quoted company as being in "the low thousands". This compares with the £20,000 that he suggested is the average cost of maintaining a corporate Web site.

More important than cost is a company's commitment to

the Web site, according to Proshare, the private investors' lobby group. Finola Healy, of Proshare said: "We encourage companies to update their sites as much as possible. But a lot of sites are updated only weekly or even monthly. It's the technical people who look after the sites, as opposed to other people in the company."

Hemmington Scott's site has an "Information Exchange" for investors to swap views.

Clerical pay rises outstrip rate of inflation

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

CLERICAL workers' pay is rising at well above the rate of inflation because of skill shortages, recruitment difficulties and the need to retain staff.

According to a new survey covering more than 1,000 employers, with more than a million staff between them, median earnings among clerical staff have risen by 5.3 per cent over the past 12 months.

Although across-the-board settlements are averaging 3.6 per cent, a level seen as reasonable, earnings are rising more quickly than settlements as employers react to pressures including rises in employees' confidence and increased labour turnover. The figures are likely to disappoint ministers, who have called for wage restraint to limit inflation.

The results of the survey, by the Reward Group, show that few clerical employees are paid below the proposed minimum wage of £3.60 an hour. Minimum pay for 16- and 17-year-olds is to be £3 an hour.

The Reward Group said that this indicated that the minimum wage is unlikely to have a substantial effect on most employers' pay practices. However, some jobs in low-pay industries will be affected.

Steve Flather, managing director of the Reward Group, said: "The rises are the most substantial we have seen for some time. They mirror those seen in the average earnings index and are similar to the 5.5 per cent rise seen by Reward in management pay over the same period."

The survey also found that a greater number of employers were offering staff more than 25 days of annual holiday.

Mr Flather said: "Ten years ago, only 31 per cent of clerical workers and 36 per cent of operatives received 25 days' holiday a year. Nowadays, around 40 per cent of workers receive 25 days' holiday while those with fewer days are quickly catching up."

THE TIMES

The great easyJet take off starts on Monday.

<http://www.the-times.co.uk> **CHANGING TIMES**

Golden Hope Plantations Berhad
(INCORPORATED IN MALAYSIA)
(Company No. 29992-U)

Notice of Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Twenty-Second Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held at Ballroom 1, Level 2, Hotel Nikko Kuala Lumpur, 165, Jalan Ampang, 50450 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on Wednesday, 16th September, 1998, at 11.30 a.m., for the following purposes:

ORDINARY BUSINESS

1. To receive and adopt the Report of the Directors, the Audited Accounts for the year ended 30th June, 1998 and the Report of the Auditors thereon. Ordinary Resolution 1
2. To declare a final dividend for the financial year ended 30th June, 1998. Ordinary Resolution 2
3. To approve the Directors' fees for the financial year ended 30th June, 1998. Ordinary Resolution 3
4. To re-elect the following Directors pursuant to Article 94 of the Company's Articles of Association:
 - i Encik Mohammad bin Abdullah Ordinary Resolution 4
 - ii Dato' Abd. Wahab bin Maskan Ordinary Resolution 5
5. To re-elect Tan Sri Dato' Seri Ahmad Sarji bin Abdul Hamid pursuant to Article 99 of the Company's Articles of Association as Director of the Company. Ordinary Resolution 6
6. To re-appoint the following Directors pursuant to Section 129(6) of the Companies Act, 1965, as Director of the Company to hold office until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting:
 - i Encik Howe Yoon Chong Ordinary Resolution 7
 - ii Encik Washington SyCip Ordinary Resolution 8
7. To re-appoint Messrs Ernst & Young as the Company's auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration. Ordinary Resolution 9
8. To transact any other ordinary business of the Company of which due notice has been received.

CLOSURE OF BOOKS:

NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the Share Transfer Books and Register of Members will be closed from 23rd September, 1998 to 25th September, 1998 both days inclusive, to determine shareholders' entitlement to the dividend payment.

Duly completed transfers received by the Company's Share Registrar, Signet & Co Sdn. Bhd., 10th & 11th Floor, Tower Block, Kompleks Antarabangsa, Jalan Sultan Ismail, P.O. Box 12547, 50782 Kuala Lumpur up to 5.00 p.m. on 22nd September, 1998 will be registered before entitlement is determined. The dividend, if approved, will be paid on 20th October, 1998.

FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Malaysian Central Depository Sdn. Bhd. shall not be accepting any requests for deposit and/or withdrawal of shares commencing 12.30 p.m. on 18th September, 1998 until 12.29 p.m. on 22nd September, 1998.

A depositor shall qualify for entitlement only in respect of:

- (a) shares deposited into the depositor's securities account before 12.30 p.m. on 18th September, 1998;
- (b) shares not withdrawn from the depositor's securities account as at 12.29 p.m. on 18th September, 1998;
- (c) shares transferred into the depositor's securities account before 12.30 p.m. on 22nd September, 1998 in respect of ordinary transfers;
- (d) shares transferred into the depositor's securities account at or before 3.00 p.m. on 22nd September, 1998 in respect of express transfers; and
- (e) shares bought on the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange on a cum entitlement basis according to the Rules of the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange.

By order of the Board
NORLIN BINTI ABDUL SAMAD (LS 000981)
Secretary
Kuala Lumpur
1st September, 1998

Notes:

A member of the Company entitled to attend and vote at the above meeting may appoint one or more proxies but not exceeding two, to attend and vote in his stead. Where a member appoints two proxies, the appointment shall be invalid unless he specifies the proportion of his holdings to be represented by each proxy. A proxy need not be a member of the Company but must attend the meeting in person to vote. The instrument appointing a proxy must be deposited at the Company's registered office, 13th Floor, Menara PNB, No. 201-A, Jalan Tun Razak, 50400 Kuala Lumpur, not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or at any adjournment thereof.

سكزا من الأهل

THE TIMES TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1 1998

FOR... WI...

Britain's bosses exp...

City's streets lo...

Michael Clark

WORD-WATCHING

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What a month to be away! Many a market trader will return from holiday to find a world transformed. A few — but only a very few — may congratulate themselves on having seen it all in bafflement and fear.

Moreover, these emotions extend well beyond the narrow confines of the dealing room. For the first time since the oil crises of the 1970s, you can imagine the world slipping into a slump.

Surely this fear will have affected even those august gentlemen gathered this weekend at the unpromisingly named Jackson Hole (in Wyoming) for the annual symposium of the world's top monetary officials. Let us hope that they have managed to stray from their appointed topic of "global income inequality" to address the rather more important issue of global income shrinkage.

Why did so few people see the global economic crisis coming? This question is particularly acute for financial markets, because looking forward is what they are supposed to do.

In fact, when it comes to the macro questions they find this difficult. The uncertainty, the condition when the point where we cannot even attach probabilities to the possible outcomes.

Much of our modern world abhors the idea of pure uncertainty and seeks to obscure it with spurious estimates of probability ranges. Markets deal with it in the way that Keynes described so eloquently in the 1930s — they proceed as though the future were certain by developing, and trading on, a conventional view.

But every so often something happens to make it clear that this conventional view is so detached from reality that it is no longer credible. That is when the markets crack.

If the current crisis started in Thailand in July 1997, why has it taken so long for world financial markets to wake up to the dangers? There are several detailed answers.

First, there was a touching belief that things were really as they appeared on the surface — from Japanese balance sheets to the Russian embrace of free markets.

Moreover, many of those paid to forecast evidently cannot see further than their noses. When assessing the dangers emerging from the Asian crisis it has been common for economists (and many businessmen) to say, "there's not much sign of it in

Forecasters found refuge in wrong neck of the woods



ROGER BOOTLE

shopping bill. None of the items seems that much individually but, when added up, the total comes to a tidy sum.

Economists need to be very careful with their 1 per cent. A drop in GDP growth of 2 or 3 per cent is sufficient to take an economy from decent growth with stable unemployment to the brink of recession.

These detailed reasons all amount to the same general idea — the conventional view that the world economy would all be all right in the end. Caught in this mood, the markets are impervious to bad news.

Okay, so there has been a collapse of Asian economies. No matter; the world can shrug it off.

Yet more dire news from Japan? Well, that was only to be expected. Evidence of a slowdown in US corporate earnings? Take refuge in the new paradigm.

Finally, though, as the sheer scale of the Russian crisis has hit home in recent days, the complacency has crumbled. Not that the Russian economy is large enough on its own to cause serious problems — Russia's GDP is smaller than Switzerland's — but markets realise that

my neck of the woods", thereby failing to see the processes in the pipeline that would affect their neck of the woods in due course. Rather than looking to the future, they have simply given a snapshot of the present.

Allied to this, there has been a failure to see the crisis in its entirety. This continues even now. Some analysts have offered comfort in the idea that only 1 per cent of US exports goes to Russia. Not long ago it was only "x per cent" which went to Korea, Thailand and the rest. Yet there are several 1 per cent at stake. It is rather like a supermarket

this crisis extends beyond mere economics. If Russia turns to an authoritarian leader and resorts to its time-honoured habit of blaming foreigners for all its ills, then not only will there be painful security consequences for both the US and Western Europe but the rejection of global capitalism may light a torchpaper in all those countries battered by the crisis.

What makes this situation all the more scary is the absence of clear leadership. While Russia is in chaos, the new Japanese Prime Minister is overwhelmed by problems without solutions. Chancellor Kohl is battling for survival and, across Europe, the whole political class is mesmerised by the euro. Meanwhile, the IMF is enfeebled by its lack of financial muscle and the widespread criticism of its role in the Asian and Russian crises.

Last week I argued that the strength of the US President had little to do with the success of the American economy over recent years. I should have added that his weakness at a time like this could have important implications — not only for the US but for the world.

A few years ago, responding to the collapse of communism and the apparent worldwide triumph of capitalism, Francis Fukuyama wrote a book entitled *The End of History*. The way things have looked recently, it seems as though the old girl may have quite a bit of life left in her yet.

Dow falls below 8,000

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

THE Dow Jones industrial average yesterday fell below the 8,000 mark for the first time since February.

US blue chip shares opened up higher as traders suggested that last week's decline — the index's worst weekly fall since 1989 — had been too steep. But

gloom soon sent the Dow down 150 points by midday.

Technology stocks were hard hit as overseas sales are expected to suffer. Dell, the computer maker, and Intel, the chip manufacturer, were among those marked down.

Some traders said the market would fall yet further because technology stocks were overvalued.

WALL-STREET

Table with columns for 'Aug 31', 'Aug 28', 'Aug 27' and 'Aug 26' showing stock prices for various companies like AMP Inc, AIG, Alcoa, etc.

Britain's bullying bosses exposed

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

GORDON RAMSAY, the celebrity chef and former Glasgow Rangers footballer, is the unwitting star of a television documentary shown tonight that claims to uncover "Britain's unbearable bosses".

Mr Ramsay, 32, who left the fashionable West London restaurant Aubergine in July, is allegedly exposed as a difficult boss by a hidden camera. Coincidentally, tonight he opens his new Chelsea restaurant, called Gordon Ramsay.

Granada Television has filmed him using foul language in the presence of an undercover reporter who posed as a student working in the kitchens at the Aubergine restaurant.

The documentary is the result of a collaboration between Granada Television and the Trades Union Congress after the TUC received 5,000 calls to a telephone helpline for employees suffering from workplace bullying last year.

Mr Ramsay was not available for comment yesterday but a member of his staff said: "He is very busy right now and is concentrating on the kitchen."

Nine bosses whom Granada and the TUC claim bully members of their workforce are featured on the programme, which coincides with the launch of a national TUC campaign against bullying at work.

so many of those exploited are forced to work in a climate of fear. "Trade unions and good employers need to work together to expose exploitation at work. That is why the TUC is launching a national campaign against one of the main complaints to the bad bosses line — workplace bullying."

The TUC telephone hotline, which ran in December 1997, will be open for another week from October 5 this year and callers will be able to order a leaflet on how to tackle workplace bullying. The television programme will be shown on ITV at 10.40pm this evening.

Companies which have invested in Worthing include Daewoo Motor Company, SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals and Griffin Credit Services. Almost half of the top 50 locations were in the South of England while only seven in the North and 11 in the Midlands made the list.

Expertise said excellent infrastructure, skilled workers and a solid manufacturing base supplemented by expansion into high-tech business services were important for profitability.

Scotland boasts Perth, Paisley and Edinburgh in the top 20. Aberdeen, despite its prosperity as Europe's oil capital, only managed 50th place. The most profitable location in Wales was Swansea.

Worthing top of UK profit league

BRITISH banks are spending more than £1 billion to upgrade their information systems so that they do not fall prey to the millennium bug — the computer fault that threatens to shut down machines in the first seconds of 2000.

Barclays leads the pack with a budget of £250 million, followed by Lloyds TSB, NatWest and Standard Chartered, each of which expect to spend £150 million updating their systems. HSBC Holdings, owner of Midland, has earmarked £113 million.

At the other end of the spectrum, Northern Rock has budgeted just £5 million, while Woolwich estimates year 2000 costs at just £25 million. Alliance & Leicester is setting aside £40 million.

Most of the money, according to figures declared in the banks' interim results, will be spent in the next 16 months. Only a third of their combined £1 billion budget had been spent by the end of June.

Worthing top of UK profit league

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

THE most profitable town in Britain is Worthing, West Sussex, where businesses enjoy an average profit margin of almost 21 per cent. According to a survey by Experian, the credit-checking company, Warrington in Cheshire is second with just under 20 per cent while Dundee is third with 19 per cent.

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Expertise analysed the total level of profits in 285 towns and cities against the total sales of nearly 200,000 companies. Folkestone came last, behind Ramsgate and Sittingbourne, and Experian brands Kent the least profitable county in Britain.

Millennium bug costs banks £1bn

BY RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH banks are spending more than £1 billion to upgrade their information systems so that they do not fall prey to the millennium bug — the computer fault that threatens to shut down machines in the first seconds of 2000.

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A survey by City Consultants, a financial advisory firm, indicates that about 90 per cent of securities houses have developed a programme to ensure that their internal and external systems will be work in the new millennium. Nearly 70 per cent of respondents said some of the current systems would not meet year 2000 requirements.

Nothing should come between you and your mission-critical information.

From accounts through to stock control and on the road with sales, different users need to access mission-critical data in a way that suits them to maximise productivity. Yet with many legacy systems this can be difficult to provide.

With so many differing user requirements, the challenge today is not just in providing access to the host, but in managing that access to deliver the right information to the right people in the right format. We call this host access management and, fortunately, we have the answer. Whether you require terminal emulation for power users, secure web-based access for customers or, in fact, any point in between, we can deliver. Best of all, your current investment in legacy systems needn't be affected.

For more information on how you can evolve the way you manage access to your legacy systems, visit www.attachmate.co.uk or call us on 0118 989 0390.

Web-to-host • Desktop management • Terminal emulation

Attachmate. The Advantage of Information.

City's streets lose their shine

Before he became Lord Mayor, Dick Whittington thought the streets of the City of London were paved with gold.

So too did the European, US and Japanese banks that came to the Square Mile after Big Bang, back in 1986. All of them have been disillusioned.

While it is possible to make big bucks from trading in Europe's biggest financial centre, it is more likely that you will lose vast sums when the going gets tough.

That has certainly been the case for most securities houses in recent weeks, especially those with direct exposure to the main capital markets.

Michael Clark on the problems facing foreign banks in London

their own fields, with open-ended exposure to the peaks and troughs of bull and bear markets. They not only made money when the market went up, but also knew how to make a turn when prices fell.

It was the heyday of the old-fashioned jobbing system when brokers traded direct with the market wholesalers who took a position and absorbed much of the volatility. It was a kind of upmarket poker.

But that all changed with the introduction of computerised trading which made busi-

ness far more transparent and inevitably more difficult.

Last October, the London Stock Exchange introduced Sets, a new computer trading system for leading shares that matched buyer with seller. It has been accused by traders of strangling liquidity, the life blood of financial markets.

These days to survive in the City, securities houses must offer a complete range of services. But that means extra staff, increased back-up and state-of-the-art computer systems. It all adds up to rising costs. Brokers estimate that

the cost of starting trading each day for the likes of Merrill Lynch or Citicorp could be as much as £200,000 a time — that's before the first share, or bond, changes hands.

The recent helter-skelter in share price movements around the world has only exacerbated the problems. As one leading market-maker commented: "Liquidity has dried up. August is normally a quiet month, anyway, but the growing prospect of a world recession has forced us to make prices in markets where there is no stock."

Only last week Credit Suisse First Boston was forced to deny claims that it had lost hundreds of millions of pounds on the emerging markets. There are also problems for the agency broker who has seen a sharp drop-off in turnover and, therefore, revenues. As one broker put it: "Private investors are keeping out of the way."

The integrated houses make their money by way of proprietary trading — taking a view of the market and buying and selling large amounts of stock accordingly. This stock is then sold on, or bought back at a later date. But when someone misreads the market, the losses are inevitably huge.

Answers from page 27. BUFLAGIN: A poison of steroidal structure that occurs in the skin of certain toads... STROMBOLI: One of the islands of the Lipari or Aeolian group, lying north-east of Sicily... BENDING MOMENT: The algebraic sum of all the moments located between a cross-section and one end of a structural member... DIK DIK: A tiny antelope, with a short body and a protruding nose...

FOURIST RATES table with columns for Bank Buys, Bank Sells, and various international rates like Australia, Austria, Belgium, etc.

Release for small denomination banknotes only supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to smaller denominations. Release as at close of trading on Friday.

Market mayhem casts cloud over Euroland's rehearsals

Richard Miles looks at how recent events will affect the single currency

With the world's stock markets in turmoil, Europe's bankers could not have picked a worse weekend to prepare for the dress rehearsal of euro-conversion.

Although the UK has opted out of the first wave of conversion, the arrival of the single currency will nevertheless herald huge changes for the country's financial institutions. London, as a leading centre of foreign exchange, international bond and derivatives trading, has its work cut out to meet the December 31 deadline.

The City is the world's foremost centre for foreign exchange, accounting for 30 per cent of all transactions. The London Stock Exchange handles almost two thirds of the turnover in foreign equities, dwarfing New York and Nasdaq. And despite some recent losses, the derivatives market, trades more contracts than its Frankfurt and Paris rivals put together. No one really expects the capital's pre-eminence to evaporate when the euro comes next year.

Because Britain is an "out" country, many of its financial institutions are treating the euro's birth as if it were any other currency. On a national level, Chaps, the UK wholesale settlement system, will be converted to handle payments in euros. The euro version of Chaps is important because it will give firms access to Target, which handles cross-border payments in Euroland.

In foreign exchange, 11 currencies will disappear overnight, to be replaced by the euro, and dealers will consolidate their European trading desks under a single euro banner. As much of the existing trade in London is denominated in US dollars and other non-European currencies, the overall impact on the City's foreign exchange desks is likely to be limited.



All change: London-based trade in international bonds and derivatives will be altered completely by the single currency

The repercussions for the bond market are far more profound. Bond dealers play on currency differences, buying the paper of whichever European government is offering the best yield. With the advent of the euro, that play will disappear. Interest rates, and so yields, are also expected to converge, essentially creating a single euro-bond market on a par with the US debt market.

In this brave new world of the euro-bond, the emphasis will be on credit quality, rather than currency differences. Many investment banks, including Barclays Capital and Credit Suisse First Boston, have spent the past couple of years building up their credit desks, recruiting widely in the US where the scale and sophistication of the debt market mean such skills are plentiful.

Banks believe the European bond market will develop rapidly along similar lines as both companies and investors develop a more sophisticated understanding of the notion of creditworthiness — a lesson that those with Russian debt have learnt the hard way. Traders expect the debt market to become graduated with varying types of bond created for different investment purposes. In particular, the nascent high-yield market — formerly known as junk bonds — is forecast to grow swiftly.

Over the next five to ten years the European market will go some way to replicating the success of the US market. Barclays Capital said in a recent note. This reflects the fact that high yield satisfies the requirements of both issuers and borrowers. High yield provides corporate borrowers with a cheaper, more flexible source of funding.

Others are more sceptical. Gabriel Irwin, chairman of the fixed income division at the asset management arm of Prudential Assurance, senses little appetite for a more sophisticated debt market and reckons the pace of development will be slower. Bond investors will shift to other markets outside the euro zone, he predicts.

By contrast, the immediate impact of the single currency on the equities market will be marginal, other than that the stocks of companies listed in the 11 "in" countries will be quoted in euros. Longer term, however, a single European stock market may emerge. The landmark agreement struck earlier this year by the London and Frankfurt exchanges to join forces certainly points to such a future.

Of course, the euro could turn out to be an unmitigated disaster. A recent survey of UK fund managers revealed that more than 80 per cent thought economic and monetary union would fall apart within the first five years. But this weekend, as stock markets across the globe continued to tumble, the European Commission was insisting that EMU was still on track for January 1, 1999.

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Shops get to grips with new regime

People who have been in France this summer may have noticed that prices in Leclerc, the French equivalent of Tesco, were quoted in both francs and euros.

It may look peculiar, and it is premature as euro notes and coins will not begin circulating anywhere until the beginning of 2002. But even in Britain, seeing shop prices in euros is going to get more common.

From the middle of 2002, after a period in which the euro will run alongside national currencies, the mark, lira, peseta and franc will be no more.

One important issue will be the rounding up or down of prices. The Belgians are already wrestling with this problem as they have discovered that 100 Belgian francs would be the less than consumer-friendly 2.32 euros.

Even if Britain never joins, the introduction of the euro is going to have far-reaching implications for retailers. The British Retail Consortium has estimated that it will cost the industry up to £3.5 billion. Retailers are going to have to deal with suppliers in euros. The chainstores with branches in Dublin will have to prepare for the change in currency, and back at home they will have to decide what to do about people who want to pay in the single currency they can use in the 11 euro-zone countries.

The shopkeepers' biggest headache is going to be deciding whether to accept euros when they are proffered. A few bigger players have developed tills that will accept multiple currencies, but smaller shopkeepers are more likely to get an old till out of the loft and have it for sterling and one for euros.

Marks & Spencer is particularly well-prepared because by 2002 it will have shops in ten of the 11 euro-zone countries. It has introduced a whole new till system, at a cost of £10 million, that will accept foreign currencies, including euros. It will accept euro notes and give change in local currency.

Boots is another company that is taking the euro seriously, and it will be accepted in some of its stores in airports, railway stations and in areas where it sees particular demand such as Central London. All of its tills are capable of taking euros and it is spending £40 million preparing for the euro, with much of the money going on staff training.

TELEVISION CHOICE

Plight of the gentle giants

The Orang-Utan Rescue
BBC1, 8.00pm
Venturing further than she usually gets on *The Really Wild Show*, Michaela Strachan travels to Borneo to draw attention, as effectively as a television celebrity can, to the plight of the orang-utan. Seven thousand of the creatures, one-third of the Indonesian population, have died in forest fires this year. Poachers have torn mothers away from their babies. Strachan visits a rescue centre which cares for more than 200 injured and orphaned babies, suffering from burns, starvation and the loss of limbs. She helps to nurse one orphan back to life. For the climax to the film she joins Dr Willie Smits, the conservationist at the forefront of saving the orang-utan, for a trek into the heart of the country. The aim of their mission of mercy is to rescue 20 baby orphans held illegally and in need of immediate medical attention.



Michaela Strachan visits an orang-utan sanctuary in Indonesia (BBC1, 8pm)

Supply and Demand
ITV, 9.00pm
Promoted from a pilot episode last year to a series, *Lynda La Plante's* latest offering is a crime series about an undercover team recruited from the police and security services. Helped along by a noisy score, their first assignment is to check out one of their own colleagues, who was assigned to infiltrate a drugs smuggling operation but is suspected of doing a bit of dirty work on her own. In an unusual piece of casting the crack team is headed by Miriam Margolyes, playing a middle-aged lesbian in a dowdy cardigan. But on the early evidence this is a drama of action rather than character, with plot uppermost and little time for hour breath. *Larry Lamb* (whose first television hour was playing Ronnie Biggs) is Margolyes' number two and among other familiar faces are Stella Gonet and Martin Kemp.

with more mammoth sperm and so on until a more or less pure strain emerged. But first the professor has to find his frozen mammoth and the cameras follow his Japanese expedition to the edge of the Arctic Circle. But as only eight complete mammoth bodies have been discovered this century, and he has only two weeks before the ice and snow return, the odds are against him. While his search goes on, the film ponders the mystery of why the mammoth disappeared and considers the morality of recreating it.

Equinox: Resurrecting the Mammoth
Channel 4, 9.00pm
It is many thousands of years since the mammoth became extinct but Professor Kaufmann Goto wants to bring it back. He plans to inject the sperm of a mammoth preserved in the ice of Siberia into the egg of a surviving near relative, the Asian elephant. The resultant hybrid would be injected

Nature Special: Living With El Nino
BBC2, 9.30pm
Julian Pettifer travels the world trying to make sense of a phenomenon that has been known about for thousands of years but seems only recently to have made the headlines. El Nino is seen as a random and malevolent force which can affect large numbers of people and wildlife, as it causes drought in some areas and flooding in others. But it is only a natural weather cycle and while there is no denying the havoc it can cause, this has often been made worse by human intervention. Besides, in some cases the effect can be benign. Pettifer's message is that El Nino is here and we must learn to live with it — like the farmers in Zimbabwe who have phased out cattle and cultivated wild animals which can better cope with climate changes.
Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

Tales from the Village
Radio 4, 9.30am
The first of five weekly programmes by Joel Kibazo that offer, to judge by the first two, some fascinating insights into the modern lives of villagers in Africa. Today Kibazo reports from a village in The Gambia, where women come to bathe in the local crocodile pool because they believe it cures their infertility. The man whose family has looked after the pool for hundreds of years offers a reason for the water's power which is no more or less complex than that put forward for religion: "If you compare it with science it's very difficult to understand, it's a matter of belief." Nor is the belief in the pool's power confined to Africa: infertile women from Britain are among those who come to take the waters.

Original Features: DIY Castle
Radio 4, 3.30pm
A welcome change from the earnestness of certain DIY programmes on television, this programme studiously avoids the cutting edge of fashion and instead has much more fun exploring the outer limits of home decorating, a place where taste, decency and fashion are cheerfully cast aside in favour of individuality. You'll guess from the birthday present John Mew received from his wife — a bulldozer — that Mew's project involves no half measures. He is constructing a castle in Sussex, a project which has tested both Mew's powers of persuasion and the planning department's powers of patience close to breaking point. Frank Wilton, the presenter, is plainly in awe of such dedication, as indeed am I. Peter Barnard

RADIO 1
6.30am Kevin Greening and Zoe Ball 6.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiteley, includes 12.30pm Newsbeat 3.00 Dave Pearce includes 5.45 Newsbeat 5.25 The Evening Session 8.30 Digital Update 8.40 John Peel 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 12.00 The Breakfast 2.00am Charlie Jordan 4.00 Chris Moyles

WORLD SERVICE
7.00am News 7.15 Insight 7.30 Shadow Boxing On The Path To Nirvana 7.45 On The Spot: Anna Karenina 8.30 The Edge 8.00 News (848 only) News in German 8.15 Radio for Thought 8.15 Musical of the Week 10.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 Stories from the Atlantic 10.30 Looking at Literature: Much Ado About Nothing 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 On Screen 12.00 Newsdesk 12.00pm Shadow Boxing On The Path To Nirvana 1.00 News; (848 only) News in German 1.05 World Business Report 1.15 Britain Today 1.30 Health Matters 1.45 Sports Roundup 2.00 Newsdesk 2.05 On the Edge 3.00 Outlook 3.05 News 4.05 Sports Roundup 4.15 Westway 4.30 The Greenfield Collection; (848 only) News in German 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Britain Today 6.00 News 6.15 Insight 6.30 Evening Session (848 only) News in German 6.45 Sports Roundup 7.00 Newsdesk 7.30 One Planet 8.00 News 8.01 Outlook 8.25 Pause for Thought 8.30 Megamix 9.00 Newsdesk 9.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 Health Matters 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 On the Edge 11.45 Sports Roundup 12.00 News 12.05pm Outlook 12.30 Megamix 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 The Discovery World 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Forecasting 3.00 Newsday 3.30 Sports Roundup 4.00 News 4.05 World Business Report 4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30 The World Today 5.00 The World Today

RADIO 2
6.00am Alan Lester 7.30 Sarah Kennedy 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Ed Stewart 5.05 John Durr 7.00 Carl Davis Classics 8.00 Nigel Ogden 9.00 Blackpool — The Resort Without Peer. Russ Abbot presents a celebration of the popular holiday town 10.05 Kennedy and the Vellin 10.30 Richard Ainslie 12.00am Steve McMillan 8.00 Annie O'Han

CLASSIC FM
6.00am Nick Bailey 8.00 Harry Kelly. Includes the Hall of Fame Hour: favourite pieces voted for in the Classic FM Top 300 12.00 Lunchtime. Jane Matthews introduces the listeners' favourite pieces of music 2.00pm Concerto. Handel (Organ Concerto No 13 in F, The Cuckoo and the Nightingale) 3.00 Jamie Cullum. Music, travel, sport and business news. Plus continuous Classics and Afternoon Romance 6.30 Newsday Arts issues and news updates, with John Burningham 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven 8.00 Evening Concert. Haydn (Symphony No 43 in E flat; Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 1 in C; Symphony No 1 in C) 11.00 Menn at Night 2.00am Concerto (3) 3.00 Mark Griffiths

RADIO 3 LIVE
6.00am The Breakfast Programme 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News 1.00pm Oldroyd and Co 4.00 Nationwide with Julie Mortimer 7.30 Newsday with David Mitchell 7.30 Tuesday Match: Jonathon Overend introduces the evening's football coverage, plus commentary on day two of the US Open tennis tournament at Flushing Meadows 10.00 Late Night Live with Nick Robinson 1.00am Up All Night with Fred Sharr 5.00 Morning Reports

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VIRGIN RADIO
6.30am Chris Evans 9.30 Bobby Hain 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Mark Forster 7.30 James Morritt 10.00 Paul Coyte 1.00am Peter Dinklage 4.30 Jeremy Clark

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TALK RADIO
7.00am Bill Overton and Kirsty Young 9.00 Scott Chisholm 11.00 Lorraine Kelly 1.00pm Anna Rastburn 3.00 Tommy Boyd 5.00 Peter Dinklage 7.00 Nick Abbot 8.00 James White 1.00am Ian Collins and the Creators of the Night 5.00 Bill Overton

CLASSIC FM
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RADIO 3
6.00am On Air. Presented by Petroc Trevelyan. Includes a review of last night's production in London, where the DVO's Carle performed *The Midwife at the Festival Hall*. 9.00 Masterworks, with Penny Gore. Includes Shostakovich (Overtures on Russian and Kirgiz), The No. 10 for piano (1941), Debussy (Orchestre, Air de danse, L'enfant prodige, arranged for piano duet), Ravel (Rapsodie espagnole, version for piano duet), Berlioz, an Nettle and Markham (America: Tonight, West Side Story). 2.00 BBC Proms 98. Last Thursday's concert (1) 4.00 Choral Voices: Songs of Freedom. Paul Delaney presents music with a political agenda. BBC Singers under Stephen Cleobury. Includes Britten (Advance Democracy); Tippett (Spantula, A Child of Our Time); Veijo Tormis (Karelian Destiny); Pus music by Weber, Joaquin Desprez and Stravinsky. 4.45 Music Machine, with Tommy Pearson (1) 5.00 In Tune. Steve Hafferty talks to Jeremy Sims about the surrealism of Poulenc. 7.00 BBC Proms 98. Lorraine Hunt, mezzo, Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra under Esa-Pekka Salonen. John Adams (Christy's Carbox, first London performance); Mahler (Lieder eines Fahrenden Gesellen); 7.35 Ancient Landscapes 7.55 Sibelius (Four Lemminkäinen Legends) 8.00 Composer of the Week: Play (25) (1) 9.35 Phantasia. Includes Orlando Gibbons (Four Fantasias a 3); Tobias Hume (A Mary Concert, The King of Denmark's Delight); The Carle of Burgundy; John Adams (Christy's Carbox, first London performance); Mahler (Lieder eines Fahrenden Gesellen); 7.35 Ancient Landscapes 7.55 Sibelius (Four Lemminkäinen Legends) 8.00 Composer of the Week: Play (25) (1) 9.35 Phantasia. 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CRISIS 41 Roger Booile says nobody saw it coming

BUSINESS

EUROFILE 42 How recent events affect single currency



BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1 1998

Wall Street shares drop to lowest point of the year

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

WALL STREET suffered another nervous day's trading yesterday, with the third consecutive 100-point decline taking the Dow Jones industrial average below its level at the start of the year.

Shares fell 150 points in afternoon trading to below the opening mark of 7,900 at the beginning of the year. Last Thursday the Dow had opened above 8,500.

The inability of the world's most important market to shrug off the Russian wor-

ries looks set to cause further falls when the market opens in London this morning.

Meanwhile, in Europe, Yves Thibault, the European Monetary Affairs Commissioner called for European finance ministers to meet to discuss the Russian economic problems. Britain said it was considering calling a meeting of the Group of Seven leading industrial nations, but it wanted first to see a new government formed in Moscow. "The possibility of a meeting of some form of G7 leaders is being actively considered," said a spokesman for Tony Blair.

Other US indices were hit even harder than the Dow, which fell 1.5 per cent. The Standard & Poor's 500 fell 2.5 per cent and the Nasdaq composite index lost 5 per cent.

Technology stocks, mostly listed on the Nasdaq market, were among the worst performers. Companies such as Dell, the computer manufacturer, had risen faster than the market throughout the year and now bear the brunt of market insecurity.

Donald Selkin, chief market strategist at Joseph Gunnar & Co, said: "The market is trying to adjust to the fact that earn-

ings growth is not going to be robust." Market watchers are receiving conflicting signals from investors and have mostly opted for a wait-and-see position. One economist said: "So far, this is no more than a correction."

Economists have kept a close watch on the number of initial public offerings planned for the next few weeks. Flotations are seen as a crucial indicator of market confidence. A number of high-profile public offerings have been shelved in recent weeks and some market watchers said the

number of flotations has hit a decade-low. But Wall Street is still looking forward to possibly the biggest flotation in its history, the offering of a 15 per cent stake in Goldman Sachs, one of the world's most profitable banks.

Earlier, Japanese shares had enjoyed a better day with the Nikkei closing 1.4 per cent higher at 14,108.

Other Asian markets fared less well, with the Hang Seng index in Hong Kong falling 7 per cent as the Government abandoned an attempt to support local share

prices. The small Taiwan market fell 2.8 per cent to a 22-month low, but South Korean stocks firmed by 2 per cent. Thailand, the first of the Asian economies to hit problems last year, fell nearly 2 per cent.

The US dollar regained some ground against the mark in Europe after dropping to a nine-month low overnight. Analysts suggested that the problems in Europe could prompt a cut in US interest rates to reduce the risks of a global recession.

Wall Street, page 41

Shell close to link-up deal with Texaco

BY CARL MORTSHED, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

SHELL is close to agreeing a merger of its European refining and marketing operations with Texaco.

The deal is likely to lead to significant job losses around Europe and the UK, as the companies rationalise their service station networks and other businesses.

The announcement of a deal, which may come this week, will coincide with a dramatic deterioration in the profits of Europe's leading refiners which are suffering from a glut of gasoline and heating oil on world markets.

The Anglo-Dutch group has been in talks with Texaco, the US oil company in an attempt to replicate the two groups' downstream joint venture in the US. Shell is determined to secure a leading position in oil products in Europe where it is under attack from the Mobil/ BP joint venture.

However, market-watchers believe Shell and Texaco are struggling to overcome regulatory hurdles. According to Wood Mackenzie, the oil consultants, a Shell/Texaco merger would lead to market dominance in The Netherlands where the group would have a share of more than 40 per cent. It would also run in to problems in Ireland and in

Scandinavia where Texaco already has a joint venture with Norsk Hydro.

The merger push coincides with a meltdown in profit margins at Europe's refineries. On Friday Texaco and Shell gave warning of cutbacks in refinery runs as the margin on a barrel of crude turned into a loss.

BP said that it had cut back its run by 15 per cent at Nereco refinery in Rotterdam, a joint venture with Texaco. BP is also believed to have cut back runs at Lavera in the South of France, while Shell said it was seriously considering cutbacks in its 1.5 million barrel per day European refining capacity.

The slowdown is raising alarm bells in the industry, coming at the peak of the summer driving season when gasoline consumption is high and at a time when buyers are stocking heating oil for the autumn and winter.

While refining margins continue to crumble, big oil has been trying to build up retailing profits. According to OPAL, which monitors petrol prices, the gross retail margin on a litre of unleaded petrol rose by a third from a low point of less than four pence last summer.

A merger with Texaco should give Shell leadership in the UK but retail margins have been slipping back again and the company will be hoping that Esso's huge losses from Fricowatch will dissuade it from another campaign to grab market share.

Texaco's interest in Nereco and its refinery at Pembroke in Wales will be key to the Shell merger talks. The Pembroke facility is top class but exports a large part of its production to the once-hungry US market.

Shell is already shutting down a refinery at Shellhaven but retains a large plant at Stanlow in Cheshire and also owns a refinery in The Netherlands. BP's co-operation will be necessary in any decision over the future of the BP-Texaco refinery in Holland.

The two companies already enjoy close relations. Only last week, Shell UK bought Texaco's gas marketing business in a deal that made Shell Gas Direct one of the top five companies in the UK gas market.

The acquisition trebled the size of Shell Gas Direct's customer base. Shell said it was taking advantage of the decision by rival companies to withdraw from gas marketing.



An animal rights protester is removed by police during a demonstration at Huntingdon Life Sciences at the weekend

Protest at Huntingdon rescue

BY PAUL DURMAN

ANIMAL RIGHTS protesters clashed with police at the weekend during a demonstration outside the main research centre of Huntingdon Life Sciences, which will tomorrow seek shareholder approval for a £20.2 million rescue.

A group called Coalition to Ruin Huntingdon Life Sciences

is hoping to scupper the rescue, and has sent videos to 150 of the animal testing company's largest shareholders. The video includes the controversial footage of Huntingdon staff shaking and hitting beagles that last year brought the company a severe warning from the Home Office and

lost it the custom of several pharmaceutical companies. The protesters claim the support of Barclays Bank's investment arm. Some have become Huntingdon shareholders, and are to attend tomorrow's special meeting in London. Huntingdon has said that it is likely to become insolvent

unless it can raise new funds. Existing shareholders have conditionally agreed to put in £7.1 million, but most of the new money will come from a group of American investors led by Andrew Baker, who previously ran the clinical laboratories arm of Corning of the US.

Hang Seng's fall to continue

BY FRASER NELSON

HONG KONG shares are expected to continue to fall heavily this week after the Government called a halt to its £7 billion campaign to protect vulnerable stocks against hedge funds betting on a stock market downturn.

The Hang Seng index dropped by 7.1 per cent to 7,275 yesterday, responding to the Government's change of tack against the speculators. At the weekend, the Government said it would introduce new rules to make it more difficult to take substantial short positions on shares and currency.

This is the latest round in the long-running battle to defend Hong Kong's currency peg to the US dollar.

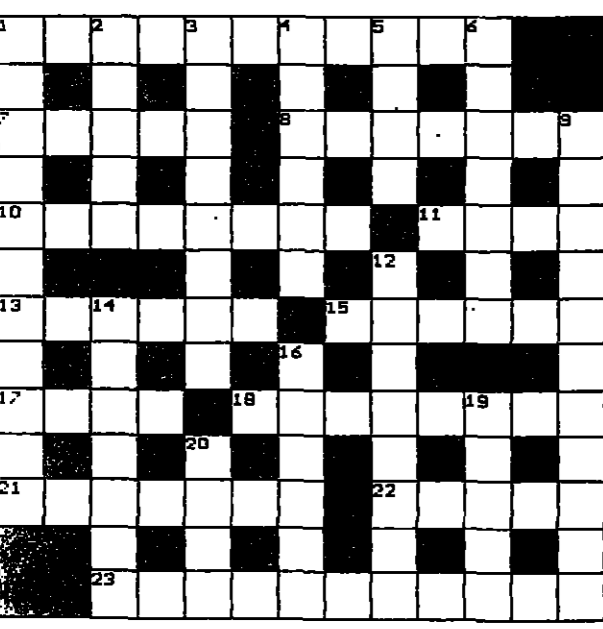
Dealers believe that the Government has relaxed after winning its August battle with speculators. It spent £7 billion on deals that lifted the Hang Seng by 17 per cent in the past fortnight, which would have punished hedge funds with exposure to August short-selling options that expired on Friday.

But this is believed to have used up 12 per cent of its foreign reserves — making it almost impossible to repeat the tactics on hedge funds hoping for a September downturn.

Joseph Yam, chief executive of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, said his organisation has spent more than it had bargained for and may well change tactics.

He said: "We have contingency plans up our sleeves. These people are manipulating markets, causing artificial conditions and profits."

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1499

- ACROSS 1 Definitely: whatever happens (7,4) 7 Hair grip: lose grip (5) 8 Vanity project (3-4) 10 Emotional closeness (8) 11 A philosopher: a factory (4) 13 Quick look (6) 15 Drums played on knees (6) 17 Per person (4) 18 Dilemma (8) 21 Be passive: relax (3,4) 22 Name: style (5) 23 Insidious Greek gift (6,5) DOWN 1 Water source, takes coins (7-4) 2 Curly Dickens boy (5) 3 Excessively (4-4) 4 Deep ditch (6) 5 Eden earldom: various rivers (4) 6 Hiding nefariously (7) 9 Rigid, light packaging (1,1) 12 First rate (3-3) 14 Very old (7) 16 Nepalese soldier (6) 19 Place of sacrifice (5) 20 Ring of light (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1498 ACROSS: 8 Sherman 9 Organ 10 Loiterers 11 Ria 12 Right 14 Unseeded 15 Cumbria 17 Evens 19 Rot 20 Aggregate 22 Shoal 23 Sistine DOWN: 1 Ostler 2 Deli 3 Imperturbable 4 Anneal 5 Nonsense verse 6 Aggrieve 7 Onward 13 Gumption 15 Caruso 16 Argosy 18 Skewer 21 Aria

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Air unions fight BA slot sell-off

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 80,000 airline workers will today start a campaign to stop British Airways being allowed to sell hundreds of landing and take-off slots.

Six unions are protesting at proposals, which have led to disagreement within the Cabinet, to allow the airline to sell its slots at Heathrow and Gatwick airports for £500 million.

The airline workers, including pilots, cabin crew and ground staff, claim that air fares will be forced up if BA is allowed to sell the 267 weekly slots that it has been ordered to dispose of by the European Commission.

BA has been told by Karel Van Miert, the European Competition Commissioner, that giving up the slots is a condition of approval of its planned link-up with American Airlines.

Airline staff are angry over proposals, backed by the Of-

Brierley's chairman forced out

BY PAUL DURMAN

THE uncertainty surrounding Thistle Hotels increased yesterday when the chairman of its largest shareholder bowed to pressure to resign.

Sir Roger Douglas, chairman of Brierley Investments, took the decision to step down after the New Zealand company's largest shareholder sought his removal from the board last week. Brierley holds 46 per cent of Thistle.

An attempt to sell Thistle recently collapsed after Nomura International, the Japanese-owned investment bank, sought to reduce its £1.7 billion offer.

As The Times reported on Saturday, Robert Peel, who was forced out of his chair at the office, giving the impression they were hard at work while they were really round the corner watching football in the pub.

Brokers dress up as the markets tumble down

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

THE world may be on the brink of recession but London stockbrokers are dressing more aggressively, opting for flash suits, loud pinstripes and styles more reminiscent of the 1980s. This "acceptable dandyism", according to one London tailor, includes demand for flashy turnback cuffs, bright linings and even lime green, salmon pink and turquoise pinstripes.

Red braces, which no self-respecting broker would have been without in the Eighties, have not staged a comeback. However, City workers ap-

pear to be getting slimmer. The "pot belly" — once a reliable indicator of how many corporate lunches its owner had enjoyed — is disappearing. Nearly two-thirds of bankers have a waistband measurement of under 36 inches according to Norton & Townsend, the tailor.

Merchant bankers are sticking to the traditional suit linings of burgundy and green but the tailor's anecdotal evidence suggests that size matters in the world of banking.

More than half of male merchant bankers had an inside

leg measurement of 32 inches or more, indicating they were at least six feet tall.

Property agents are discarding their spivvy image of blazers and sports jackets and appealing their City clients by wearing double-breasted suits instead.

During the World Cup many traders bought extra jackets so they could leave one at the back of their chair at the office, giving the impression they were hard at work while they were really round the corner watching football in the pub.

Advertisement for TROWERS & HAMLINS featuring a shopping basket filled with clothes. Text: TROWERS & HAMLINS has a new home from Tuesday 1st September 1998. Sceptre Court, 40 Tower Hill, London EC3N 4DX. Tel: 0171 423 8000 Fax: 0171 423 8001 DX 774 Lon/City Website: http://www.trowers.com

Advertisement for THE RUGBY featuring a large image of a rugby ball and text: THE RUGBY RUGBY TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1 1998. ALLIED DUNBAR MEMBERSHIP. bail out.

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